THE MARYLAND YELLOWTHROAT

Newsletter of the Maryland Ornithological Society

VOL. 21, NO. 4 SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2001

DNR Reports . . .
by Glenn Therres

Last issue, I reported that young peregrine falcons would be released on a cliff in Western Maryland this year in an attempt to re-establish a breeding population in the mountains. Well, we did it! Through a collaborative effort with the National Park Service, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, DNR, and others, five young peregrine falcons were hacked from the cliff at Maryland Heights in the Maryland portion of Harper's Ferry National Historical Park in June.

Hacking is a technique which involves placing young, flightless falcons in a nest box for a few weeks, then allowing them to fledge on their own without the help of parent birds. The technique was used successfully to reintroduce peregrine falcons elsewhere in the eastern United States, including coastal Maryland. Five nestling peregrines were removed from three nest sites in coastal Maryland and placed in a hack box on the cliff face at Maryland Heights on June 8. The young were naturally produced by established pairs of peregrines. Three came from the lighthouse near Hart-Miller Island, one came from the Key Bridge, and one came from a tower on South Marsh in Dorchester County. At least one nestling was left in each of the donor nests to allow the breeding pair to raise.

All the young (2 males, 3 females) were banded and special satellite transmitters were placed on the backs of two of the females. They were kept in the hack box for 10 days, giving the young time to acclimate to their new cliff site habitat. They were fed in such a way as to not associate food with people. On June 18, the hack box was opened and the young were allowed to fledge at their leisure. All took their first flights later that day.

The young stayed in the area for several weeks following their release. The two females with satellite transmitters started wandering away from the area in mid July. One female moved to Frederick on July 19, then headed northwest. After reaching a point just north of I-70 in Pennsylvania, she turned south and flew to the West Virginia border near Martinsburg. She then proceeded east towards Harper's Ferry, then southeast to southern Anne Arundel County. On July 22, she was in Virginia south of Winchester. She flew to Harrisburg, PA, then turned east and flew to a point near Reading, PA. She then flew back to the area south of Winchester, VA. After visiting there, on July 29 she was south of Baltimore in the Glen Burnie area. This bird traveled over 500 miles during this time period. These movements are posted weekly on the Harper's Ferry National Historical Park web page at www.nps.gov/hafe.

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Head for the Mountains of Western Maryland!
The 2002 Annual MOS Conference
by Mike Callahan

The 2002Annual MOS Conference will be held from June 7 – 9, 2002 in Western Maryland at the WISP in Deep Creek/McHenry. Mark your calendar now to join us for a great weekend of birding during the breeding season.

Your 2002 hosts will be the Allegany Chapter and the At-Large MOS members of Garrett County. They look forward to seeing you at WISP Resort and Conference Center in beautiful Western Maryland. The Breeding Bird Atlas Committee will be on hand and with breeding activity in full swing, any data collected on trips can be used for the atlas.

If you are willing to help with the Conference Planning Committee for this Western Maryland event, please contact Statewide Conference Chairman Mike Callahan at 301-490-9318 or at raptorsrule@juno.com

We are also in search of a Local Coordinator to assist with planning so if you or someone you know may be interested in taking this rewarding position, contact Mike.

For more information about the 2002 MOS Conference, look for details in the next edition of the MD Yellowthroat.

Chapter Chatter
by Martha Waugh

Frederick Loses Long-time Member — Bob Johnsson died of cancer on May 31 at the age of 64. Bob and Fanny, his life partner/wife of 42 years, were inseparable and long-time members of the Frederick Chapter. Bob had served as president. Doug Parker reports that "Bob was a career employee of the National Park Service, was a very gifted ecologist and naturalist, and found fascination in everything to do with Nature and the Universe we live in. He also had the gifts of a wry sense of humor, and an extraordinarily good outlook on and understanding of life in general, and all those who knew him were glad to have him in their own rings of life. He will be dearly missed by all of us here in Frederick."

Talbot Dedicates Activities to a Special Member — Wayne Bell reports that the Talbot Chapter has dedicated its Fall 2001 schedule of trips, walks, and breakfasts to the memory of Jean Snyder, who passed away on June 13, 2001. Jean's love of birds was part of a greater love of nature that she shared with everyone. The following, from her memorial service and not attributed to any author, is

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THE MARYLAND YELLOWTHROAT
Newsletter of the Maryland Ornithological Society, Inc.

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If you have a change of address or are experiencing difficulties with MOS mailings, contact the Mailing List Coordinator, William Guion, 8007 Martown Road, Laurel, MD 20723, (301) 490-0444, bguion@us.net.

All other questions regarding the Maryland Ornithological Society should be referred to the Executive Secretary, Larry Fry, 1202 Ridge Rd., Pylesville, MD 21212, (410) 452-8539 or at (800) 823-0050 (410-452-5611 in the Bel Air calling area). Larry's e-mail address is:
ffryjl@aol.com

For information on advertising rates and deadlines, contact the editor.

Copy deadlines for the September/October 2001 issue are:

November-January Calendar Activities:
September 25, 2001

All Other Submissions:
October 1, 2001

Deadline Approaching for MOS Research Grant Applications

by Dave Brinker

The Maryland Ornithological Society announces the availability of research grants for ornithological research to be conducted in or near the State of Maryland. Grants are generally limited to amounts less than $2,000. If the research is to be done at or near one of the MOS sanctuaries, the society may be able to provide accommodations at a nominal cost. Proposals are reviewed twice annually with deadlines of **1 December** and **1 June** with award notification in approximately eight weeks. For application guidelines and further information write:

David F. Brinker
MOS Research Committee
1200 Frederick Road
Catonsville, MD 21228

The 2002 MOS Conference Pin Design Contest
Rules and Guidelines

The MOS Conference Committee announces the 2002 MOS Conference Pin Design Contest.

Rules:

- The design shall include a bird and the phrases "MOS" and "2002."
- The bird featured must be appropriate for the 2002 conference site, Western Maryland.
- Submissions shall be rendered in full color.
- Submissions shall not be framed or matted.
- Write on the back of each entry the artist's name, phone number, and chapter affiliation; and identify the species.
- Do not put the artist's name anywhere on the front of the entry. (All references to the artist are covered before judging.)
- Artists may not use others' work, or copyrighted material.
- Artists may submit up to five designs for any one contest.
- Entrants must be members of MOS.
- By entering the contest the artists agree that if their design wins it becomes the property of MOS, which has the right to use the design to promote the conference, and for other MOS promotional uses.
- The deadline for entries is January 10, 2002.

Entries should be sent to: John Malcolm
10205 Kindly Court
Montgomery Village, MD 20886

Guidelines & Suggestions:

Designs should be in the "final version," with the bird clearly depicted. Don't send a rough sketch with the expectation that the pin company will finish the artwork for you.

Simple, uncluttered, bold designs work best. Remember, the finished pin will be less than two inches; small details and complicated backgrounds don't reduce well.

The manufacturer has a limited color palette; artists should consider birds with "basic" colors. (Note the color of the "olive" back of the Yellowthroat on the 1991 pin.)

Avoid shading or small patches of color. The pins are cloisonné, and each color change is bordered by a brass line. (The background in the original design for 1994 was shaded from dark green to light green; but the pin company could only produce one shade.)

Submissions should be on sturdy, white, unlined paper or Bristol, in any medium, and the image should be at least five inches across (but not larger than 8 X 10 inches).

The shape of the pin doesn't matter; the manufacturer can produce any shape.

Artists need not depict the entire bird (note the 1988 entry).

The contest judges are an impartial jury of birders and artists. No entrant can be a judge. Judges consider suitability of the species, and the expected attractiveness of the resultant pin. The judges' decision is final. The winning artist may be asked to make minor changes to accommodate the manufacturing process. All entries will be returned to the artists, except for the winning design, which becomes the property of MOS. Pictures of past contest winners can be seen at the MOS State Web Site: http://www.mdbirds.org

Call John Malcolm if you have any questions. He's at (301) 977-5788.

DNR Reports . . .

(continued from page 1, column 1)

The other female covered less territory than did the first. She also departed the Maryland Heights area on July 19, heading to Frederick. She then flew southwest to the West Virginia border, then northwest to Johnstown, PA. By July 22, she had flown back to Frederick where she stayed for at least a week. At the time of this writing, she was still in the Frederick area.

For updated movements of both peregrines, check the National Park Service WebPages (www.nps.gov/hafe). This satellite tracking is providing us valuable information on the movement patterns of released young peregrine falcons.

We plan on continuing this effort again next year. Similar efforts are being conducted at Shenandoah National Park in Virginia. The hope is to establish nesting pairs of peregrine falcons at traditional cliff sites, such as Maryland Heights, in the central Appalachians. Keep your fingers crossed.

CHAPTER CHATTER

(continued from page 1, column 3)

vintage material about a wonderful person. "I am standing upon the seashore. A ship at my side spreads her white sails to the morning breeze and starts for the blue ocean. She is an object of beauty and strength and I stand and watch her until at length she hangs like a speck of white cloud just where the sea and sky come down to mingle with each other. Then someone at my side says, "There! She's gone!" Gone from where? Gone from my sight, that is all. She is just as large in mast and hull and spar as she was when she left my side, and just as able to bear her load of living freight to the place of destination. Her diminished size is in me, not in her; and just at that moment when someone at my side says, "There! She's gone," there are other voices watching her coming, and other voices ready to take up the glad shout, "Here she comes!"

Howard Receives a Gift From a Long-time Member — Marjorie Mountjoy, a long-time member and supporter of the Howard Chapter died on May 25 at the age of 87. She was recruited from her beloved Tennessee to come to the Washington area to work during the early days of World War II. She was a gifted and imaginative mathematician who retired from the National Security Agency (NSA) a few years ago. Some of her contributions to the mission of that agency are still valued and recognized by her name. Marjorie enjoyed the outdoors and was an ardent hiker and bicyclist. She loved wildflowers and ferns and crossword puzzles and the music of Bach. In recent years, she had been unable to attend meetings and bird walks but she maintained her interest and support in the Chapter's activities. She gave the Chapter a $10,000 unencumbered gift in her will.

Montgomery Members Visit Thailand — Gail Mackiernan reports: "Four members of the Montgomery Chapter enjoyed an 18-day birding trip to Thailand in February. John Drummond, Bill Young, Gail Mackiernan, and Barry Cooper visited nature reserves in central and northern Thailand, making all their own arrangements, which proved very easy in these days of the internet! They saw over 350 kinds of birds, including such spectacular species as Great Hornbill, Blue Pitta, Green Peafowl, and Silver Pheasant. Thailand also provided a bonus of mammals, highlighted by a pair of Clouded Leopards at Khao Yai National Park north of Bangkok. Thailand proved to be a very modern country with good roads, comfortable accommodations, excellent food (of course!) and wonderfully friendly people. They were pleased to meet a number of local Thai birders, which bodes well for the future of this country's spectacular avifauna."

Washington Chapter Revisits Antietam — As part of an initiative of the National Park Service (NPS) to inventory all plant and animal life in the national parks of Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia, members of the Washington County Chapter (WCOS) have volunteered to record the bird life found at Antietam National Battlefield. Each week a member of the WCOS team spends between 4-7 hours traveling throughout the battlefield, recording numbers and species seen, and the behaviors observed. Spring and summer time have seen a flurry of activity with courting behaviors, nest building, and now fledglings flying throughout the battlefield. The members who are involved in this NPS project are Bob and Mary Keedy, Christine Shipe-Cover, Dave Weesner, Janet Hesler, Shirley Ford, Ann Mitchell, Judy Lilga, and Alan Biggs (not a member of WCOS).This project was begun in February, 2001, and will continue at least for a full year, if not longer. Another project that has been in place at the battlefield is a Bluebird Trail, numbering 70 boxes. This trail was founded, and has been maintained, since 1979 by a couple who have a summer home in the area. Needing some help with the trail this summer, they appealed to members of our chapter. Two members volunteered to make box checks on six different occasions. Seeing the cycle of the Bluebird, from the first blades of grass in the box, through observing egg hatching, through fledglings, has been a rewarding experience. To date, 255 Bluebirds have fledged and there remain 44 boxes with eggs or hatchlings left to complete their cycle. This may be a record year for numbers of Bluebirds fledged at Antietam.

Cecil Members Bird New Mexico — Phyllis and Frank Rawling visited New Mexico to see their youngest son, Geof, a graduate school student at the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology in Socorro, NM. Socorro is about 70 miles south of Albuquerque and about 20 miles north of Bosque de Apache NWR, one of their favorite birding spots. They also visited Water Canyon west of Socorro, Silver City in the southwestern part of the state, and Chama in the north central. Frank recommends "New Mexico Bird Finding Guide" by Zimmerman et al, available through the American Birding Association. They saw 95 species on the trip of which 33 were life species.

Three Chapters Join for a Second Annual Meeting — On Thursday, May 3, 2001, the Talbot, Kent, and Caroline Chapters enjoyed their second annual combined meeting. This time, the venue was the beautiful Adkins Arboretum in Ridgely. The special guest speaker was Dr. Allan Poole, editor of Birds of North America. Dr. Poole explored his personal adventures in editing what will be the forth comprehensive study of all the more than 700 species known to breed in North America. His job has included guiding the pens of more than 1000 authors into what will be an 18-volume treatise when complete. He also read passages from earlier treatises by Wilson, Audubon, and Bent to demonstrate how previous authors treated species like the Bald Eagle. We learned that relatively little attention was paid to ecology and habitat, subjects that have become keystone to the conservation and restoration of threatened and endangered birds today.

Anne Arundel Members Enjoy a Dismal Trip Anyway — In late May, Anne Arundel members led by Peter Hanan visited the Dismal Swamp in Virginia as well as the Croatan National Forest in the Morehead City area of North Carolina. They counted a few "quality" target birds: Swainson's Warbler, Red-cockaded Woodpecker, Bachman's Sparrow, and Painted Bunting. They began the adventure by driving down the eastern shore and stopping at the Eastern Shore Wildlife Refuge. Peter swears that they waved a napkin at the Bay Bridge & Tunnel toll booth attendant (in lieu of a permission to watch wildlife letter) and went out on the bridge and islands to bird. They were surprised to see about 75 Purple Sandpipers on a warm and sunny day. At the Dismal Swamp they missed a Swainson's Warbler and had little luck with other birds. They decided to go on to the Croatan National Forest where they were much luckier. The group decided 111 species in the three days made it a good trip.

Howard Member Achieves the Big 700 — Jane Coskren set off for Texas in January 2001in pursuit of critical life birds to put her over the 700 ABA birds mark. She and Dennis report "It was a great trip." Jane tallied Whooping Crane (698), Red-Crowned Parrot (699), Clay-colored

(continued on page 10, middle of column 1)

Maryland Ornithological Society, Inc.
State Atlas Coordinator
Contractor Vacancy Announcement

Closing Date: Applications must be received by September 14, 2001.

Terms of Employment:

- This is a contractor position, which will extend for 5 to 7 years and is renewable yearly based on performance.
- Salary: $28,000 - $32,000, annually, based on experience.
- The position is available starting on or about October 15, 2001.

Statement of Duties:

The State Atlas Coordinator (SAC) is the only paid position for the 2002-2006 MD/DC Atlas Project (Project). This Project will map in detail, with primarily volunteer help, the distribution of all bird species that breed in Maryland and D.C. The SAC reports to the Chairman of the Atlas Board of Directors. The SAC:

- coordinates the day-to-day activities associated with the Project;
- has primary responsibility for data management for the Project;
- prepares Atlas materials and trains volunteers;
- maintains master records of volunteers and contributors; and
- monitors the progress of Atlas fieldwork.

Rating Factors:

- Experience planning and executing projects.
- Attention to detail and meeting deadlines.
- Ability communicate and work effectively, especially with volunteers.
- Experience with computers, Windows, and data entry.
- Writing/editing experience.
- Experience training others.
- Experience doing ornithological fieldwork.

How to Apply:

By the closing date, send your resume, written responses to the rating factors, and, if not included in the resume, the names and phone numbers of three references to:

Karen Morley, President, MOS
2719 N. Calvert St.
Baltimore, MD 21218
email: kdmorley@yahoo.com

Conservation Notes From All Over
by Maureen F. Harvey

CARA Passes House Resources Committee—Permanent funding for wildlife and conservation scored a big victory on July 25, 2001, when the House Resources Committee passed the Conservation and Reinvestment Act (CARA), HR 701, with strong bipartisan support. A hardy THANKS to committee member Wayne T. Gilchrest, R- MD!

CARA survived numerous efforts in the Committee to add restrictions that would undermine the purpose of the legislation. Thankfully, CARA emerged from the Resources Committee completely intact with NO AMENDMENTS of substance. CARA will use money from federal offshore oil and gas revenue to provide permanent funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, wildlife conservation, historic preservation, and urban parks. CARA will provide $3.1 billion annually for these purposes.

As of July 31, 239 Representatives, i.e., a majority of the House, have endorsed CARA. CARA can provide the funding we need in Maryland to protect birds, wildlife, and their habitats. CARA is especially important for non-game wildlife conservation efforts, which lack an adequate and reliable funding source in most states. CARA will annually provide $350 million dedicated to state wildlife programs through CARA's Title III. Maryland and other states sorely need this funding to reverse alarming declines in wildlife species before they become endangered. These funds will save taxpayers money by avoiding the high costs of recovery efforts as well as assuring an economic future for nature-based tourism and the outdoor recreation industry. We're urging the House leadership to bring HR 701 to the floor for a vote as soon as possible, so it can move along to the Senate in time for consideration and, hopefully, passage this fall. For more details, visit the Teaming with Wildlife web site:

http://www.teaming.com.

"Managed" Cat Colonies Harmful to Birds — The non-profit conservation group, American Bird Conservancy (ABC), has long opposed so- called "managed" colonies of stray and feral cats, claiming that such colonies cannot be effectively controlled and that these cats, no matter how well fed, are still responsible for the deaths of thousands of native songbirds and other animals. Now, a new scientific study backs up ABC's claim that the efforts of stray cat feeders are misguided and damaging to wildlife.

The study by Dan Castillo at the Department of Environmental Studies at Florida International University, contradicts widely-held beliefs by cat colony proponents that well-fed cats do not kill wildlife, that cats are territorial and will prevent more cats from joining the colony, and that cat colonies decline in size over time.

Two cat colonies in Miami-Dade County parks were observed for 13 months and, contrary to previous assumptions, it was found that almost every month new cats joined the colonies while other cats disappeared. The colonies acted as dumping grounds for people abandoning cats, despite state and county laws making this illegal. Despite attempts by volunteers to have the cats spayed or neutered, intact cats were observed, as were pregnant cats and newborn kittens.

Although well-fed, cats at both locations were observed chasing, stalking and killing birds and other animals. Aggressive interactions among the cats were few and did not limit cat access to food or the colonies. Cat feeders placed large amounts of food throughout the parks which then attracted other animals such as raccoons, fox, skunks and stray dogs.

According to Mr. Castillo, "Managed cat colonies are not the solution to cat overpopulation problems. My findings demonstrate that the establishment of cat colonies on public lands encourages cat abandonment and is harmful to native wildlife. Cat colonies do not decline over time - they just perpetuate themselves."

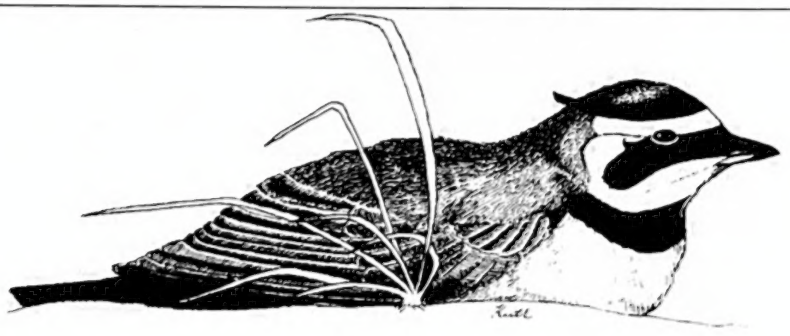
Linda Winter, director of Cats Indoors! for ABC stated, "Mr. Castillo's study confirms what other studies have shown - that cat colonies cannot be managed and do not belong in parks. Solutions to the stray cat

overpopulation problem must also protect birds and other wildlife."

ABC's Cats Indoors! Campaign is supported by thousands of individuals and organizations in the conservation, animal welfare, wildlife rehabilitation, and veterinary communities. For more information, visit ABC's Web site at: www.abcbirds.org <http://www.abcbirds.org>

Mid-Atlantic Governors' Conference on Greenways, Blueways, and Green Infrastructure — For the first time ever, the governors of Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania, in partnership with neighboring states, federal agencies, and numerous organizations, are presenting a program featuring evocative speakers and cutting-edge technologies. Enhanced by an international perspective, concurrent sessions and mobile workshops encompass the latest research findings and design solutions to address the modern challenge of building livable communities while enhancing green infrastructure. You won't want to miss this conference to be held September 16–19, 2001 in Arlington, Virginia. Special excursions will be held September 15. Check web site for program updates:

www.dcr.state.va.us/prr/2001conf.htm or contact Bill Conkle at (804) 786-5492 or *magovconf@dcr.state.va.us*.



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(800) 823-0050 - voicemail

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Conference coordinator:	Ellen Lawler	412 Monticello Ave., Salisbury, MD 21801	(410) 546-9056
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MD/DC Records:	Phil Davis	2549 Vale Ct., Davidsonville, MD 21035	(301) 261-0184
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MD Birdlife	Chandler S. Robbins	Migratory Bird Research, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Laurel, MD 20811	(301) 498-0281
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MD Yellowthroat:	Norm Saunders	1261 Cavendish Dr., Colesville, MD 20905	(202) 606-5701 -day (301) 989-9035 -eve
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Seasonal Counts	Bob Ringler	6272 Pinyon Pine Ct., Eldersburg, MD 21784	(410) 549-6031
May Count Subcomm.:	Wanda Cole	29731 Apple Drive, Cordova, MD 2 1625	(410) 822-8311
Mid-Winter Subcomm.:	Paul Jung	12606 Memory Lane, Bowie, MD 20715-1608	
Fall Subcomm.:	Chuck Stirrat	13318 Hunt Ridge, Ellicott City, MD 21042	(410) 531-2417
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Atlas:	Jane Coskren	6324 Sandchain Rd., Columbia, MD 21045	(410) 381-7344
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Nest Records	Mark Johnson	3204 Bryson Ct., Baldwin, MD 21013	(410) 692-5978
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Mailing list:	William Guion	8007 Martown Rd., Laurel, MD 20723	(301) 490-0444
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Montgomery:	Michael Bowen	8609 Ewing Drive, Bethesda, MD 20817	(301) 530-5764
Patuxent:	Frederick Fallon	1700 Pomona Place, Bowie, MD 20716	(301)249-1518
Talbot:	Wayne Bell	29590 Schwaninger Rd., Easton, MD 21601	(410) 820-6002
Tri-County:	Sam Dyke	P.O. Box 1212, Salisbury, MD 21802	(410) 742-5497
Washington:	Judy Lilga	18845 Burnside Bridge Road, Sharpsburg, MD 21782	(301) 432-2276

The Local Birder's Hotspot

Introduction by Norm Saunders

For quite some time now I've been contemplating a new feature in ***MD Yellowthroat***—contributed writeups about productive but oftentimes little-known local birding hotspots. To kick off the new column, I approached Mike Bowen, President of the Montgomery Chapter of MOS, and asked what he thought of contributing one of the site guides from the forthcoming guide to Montgomery County birding sites, currently in preparation by the Chapter. He was enthusiastic and when I mentioned that I really wanted to know more about this place Paul O'Brien was always mentioning, he agreed that this was a site that a lot of folks might not be familiar with—it was relatively small, indisputably local, but with a track record of producing good birds, especially in migration. Do any of you out there have a favorite site like this that you would like to share with the other members of MOS? Without your help, this column won't go anywhere, so please consider writing your location up and submitting it to me for publication in a future issue. And now, without further ado, Paul O'Brien's description of Upper Watts Branch Park in Rockville:

Upper Watts Branch Park, Rockville
Montgomery County

by Paul J. O'Brien

This 55-acre park, which sits at the headwaters of Watts Branch, consists of mature beech, tulip poplar, and mixed oak, with sycamore, green ash and box elder in the floodplain. It is home to 43 species of breeding birds with an additional 91 species using the habitat at different times of the year. Over 180 species have been seen in the immediate area. Of all the warblers regularly occurring in Maryland, only Swainson's Warbler has not been seen here. The park is situated between Woodley Gardens to the west and College Gardens to the east and is bounded by West Gude Dr. to the north and Nelson St. to the south.

Directions to the Park — From I-270 northbound take exit 6 for West Montgomery Ave. (Rt. 28). Stay in the left lane, which crosses West Montgomery Ave. and becomes Nelson St. Proceed 0.9 mile to the third stop sign, College Parkway, and turn left. Go 0.4 mile to the stop sign at Princeton Place, turn left and proceed six blocks to a right turn where Princeton terminates and Fordham St. begins, and park.

From the southbound I-270 exit ramp, turn left (east) onto Rt. 28, cross over I-270 and turn left at the traffic light. Proceed as above.

From Rt. 355 turn onto College Parkway at College Plaza Shopping Center and proceed 0.4 mile to the second stop sign, Princeton Place. Turn right at Princeton Place and proceed six blocks (0.4 mile) to its termination at Fordham St. and park.

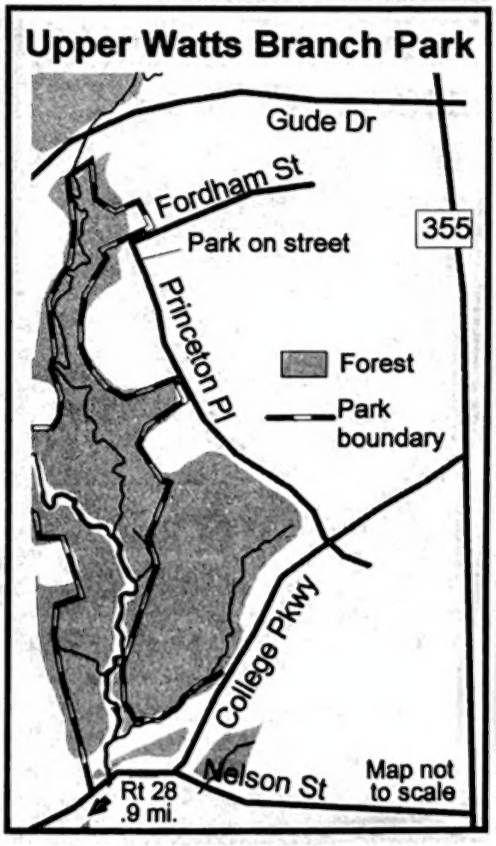
Birding the Park — The most productive birding in both spring and fall migrations is along the edge of the woods bordering an open lot right at the intersection of Princeton and Fordham. Early morning is best, as the first sunlight bathes the edge and the migrants come out of the woods to feed on insects. The interior of the woods at this location is also productive because of a permanent wetland fed by springs. Flycatchers, vireos, kinglets, mimids, warblers, tanagers, sparrows, orioles and finches are active on the edge of the woods and hawks are frequently seen either overhead or emerging from a night-time roost in the woods.

A path next to the last house on Princeton takes you directly (about 250 feet) to the banks of the stream and the path that parallels it. Excellent habitat for thrushes can be found by walking south (left) on the path about one block to the point where the east slope of the valley opens up with mature trees and sparse understory. This habitat extends for about two more blocks. All the eastern thrushes have been seen here; Gray-cheeked Thrush is usually present in mid- to late May.

Red-shouldered Hawks nest here and, in the winter, a Red-tailed Hawk is generally present along with the usual feeding flock of Carolina Chickadees, Tufted Titmice, White-breasted Nuthatches, American Goldfinches, House Finches and woodpeckers (Red-bellied, Flicker, Downy, Hairy, and Pileated). Cardinals and White-throated Sparrows guard the entrance path at Fordham. Breeders include Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Acadian and Great-crested flycatchers, Veery, Wood Thrush, Red-eyed Vireo and, sometimes, Kentucky Warbler.

To return to your car, retrace your steps.

Editor's Note: I want to thank the Montgomery County Chapter for contributing Paul O'Brien's writeup to kick off this new column. Be on the lookout for **A Birder's Guide to Montgomery County, Maryland**, due out in October of 2001. This 240-page spiral-bound book is expected to be available at a list price of $16.00, discounted to $10 per copy to Montgomery County Chapter members and to $11.20 per copy for other MOS members who order 5 or more copies. Shipping and handling is expected to be $3.00 per copy. To place orders or to find out the latest publication schedule, contact Howard Lefkowitz at *wa3vez@home.com*, 301-649.3373.



Funding the MOS Scholarship Program

by Jean Fry

The MOS scholarship program, which awards funding for attendance at summer Audubon camps and workshops to teachers, park rangers, naturalists, and community volunteers, dates back to 1959 with the awarding of a Helen Miller scholarship which was the first one to be given. Although all winners are given information on the source of their scholarship, probably only a few MOS members are aware of the background of each of the awards. Through the generosity of several individuals, over a hundred individuals have had the privilege of one or two weeks of training in ornithology or ecology. An important criterion for attendance is that the individual be in a position to pass knowledge gained on to young people. Thus, an MOS scholarship is the "gift that keeps on giving." The following biographical summaries should give more meaning to the names and lives behind the scholarship titles.

Helen Miller Scholarship — Helen Burns Miller was born in West Virginia on May 1, 1911 and died on March 17, 1958. She was educated and taught in West Virginia for two years. In 1935, she married Gilbert Miller and moved to Martin Mountain near Spring Gap, MD to live at Consolidated Orchards where her husband was production manager. The Millers had two sons, Harry and Gilbert.

Mrs. Miller was a very energetic, vivacious, kind, and gentle person. When she became interested in an organization or project, she did everything possible to encourage the group. One of her interests was the C&O Canal; she tried to create a desire in the people of the area to visit it and realize how worthy a project its preservation was. She was instrumental in organizing the Cumberland Garden Club and was its first president. In addition she was an active member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Mrs. Miller was involved in the early organizational process of MOS. She was the guiding hand for the Allegany County Bird Club for many years, was regional chair of the Bird Study Committee, and traveled to other clubs to talk about birds. She succeeded in interesting a large number of children in nature and organized the Junior Bird Club, which culminated in her camp, officially known as Allegany County Bird Club Junior Nature and Conservation Camp. This was her pet project and she gave unstintingly of her time and energy for ten years to make it one of the best of its kind. Well versed in the flora and fauna of the region around Cumberland, she knew where to find the most interesting wild flowers and where one would be likely to see certain birds. (**Maryland Birdlife**, Vol. 14, No. 2, June 1958) The first Helen Miller scholarship was awarded to Nancy Dulaney Rowe from Baltimore County in 1959 as a result of a $100 anonymous donation which began the MOS scholarship program. This amount covered a two-week session at the ornithology camp in Maine. Ms. Rowe is still a member of the Baltimore Bird Club and now resides at Broadmead.

Orville Crowder Scholarship — Orville Wright Crowder was born in Baltimore on March 24, 1904 and died on August 6, 1974. His travels began in the 1920's with a trip to the western United States. Out of this trip grew his great interest in mountain climbing and hiking. He was eventually to climb to the highest point in every state except Alaska and Hawaii. He founded the Mountain Club of MD in 1924 and served as its first president. Active in the early years of the Appalachian Trail Conference, in 1937 he became the third person to hike the entire length of the trail from Maine to Georgia. Another interest was the C&O Canal, and he served in various capacities in canal associations.

Stemming from all of this outdoor activity was his avid interest in birds, wildflowers, astronomy, and natural history. He was instrumental in reviving a bird club in Baltimore, elped to organize MOS in the late 1940's, became its second president, and assisted in organizing several chapters across the state.

He retired from Martin Aviation Co. in the early 1950's and in the early 1960's became involved in leading trips to various parts of the world for groups of friends. He founded Crowder Nature Tours, one of the first overseas nature travel groups, and either led, met with, or joined approximately 128 tours. He traveled around the world eight times and visited all but six countries. The trips were primarily for birdwatching, and he compiled a life list which exceeded 4,000 species. His AOU area list was 630 species.

In April of 1969 he founded World Nature Association (WNA). Having no family, Mr. Crowder left his entire estate to the association to help it reach the goals of promoting an international exchange of natural history and conservation information. On October 7, 1978 the WNA board of directors launched a scholarship program called the WNA Orville Crowder Memorial Scholarship. It was to be administered by MOS. The first scholarship was awarded in 1979 to Dennis Kirkwood from Harford County. He attended the Audubon Camp of the West in Wyoming. Funds from the Crowder estate were administered for many years by Dr. Donald Messersmith, president of WNA and an MOS member. In 1998, WNA was disbanded and merged with the Audubon Naturalist Society (ANS) in Chevy Chase, MD. The Orville Crowder scholarship continues to be awarded through cooperation with ANS. Priority is now given to qualified applicants from the Metropolitan DC area. (***World Nature News***, September 1974)

Daniel and Helen Gibson—Dorothy Mendinhall Scholarship — This scholarship is the result of a trust fund established by the Kent County Chapter of MOS to honor Daniel and Helen Gibson and Dorothy Mendinhall, who were leaders in forming the Kent Chapter. The fund was raised by sponsoring three bird carving shows during the 1960's at Washington College, in Chestertown, MD under the direction of the Kent County president, Daniel Gibson, his wife Helen, and Dorothy Mendinhall. The money from the three shows was put into a trust fund named the Gibson-Mendinhall Fund. It was voted by the membership of the Kent Chapter to be used for supporting ornithological research and related activities in that county. The club's interest at the time was to support the banding station at "Damsite," the home of the Mendinhalls on the Chesapeake Bay. Under the leadership and guidance of Dorothy Mendinhall, over 100,000 birds were banded from 1959 until 1991. Under Dorothy's tutelage during this period, several young MOS members became licensed bird banders under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. From 1987 into the 1990's, interest from the trust was used to support Jim Gruber's banding activities until he was injured in a boating accident and was unable to continue. In 1994, the Kent Chapter decided to sponsor an MOS scholarship to an Audubon camp with the money from the fund. The first scholarship was awarded in 1995 to Peggy Ford from Talbot County. She attended the Connecticut ecology camp. Each year priority is given to qualified applicants from the Eastern Shore of MD.

Doris Oakley Scholarship — When Doris Oakley died on April 11, 1990, she left over $200,000 to MOS. She was from Talbot County and was married to Harry Oakley, who was in real estate and publishing. As far as is known, she lived in Easton, MD all of her life. She and her husband met John Wanuga when he was a young man and adopted him. Doris, a backyard birder who was characterized as quiet and serious, encouraged John in birding. He became a very active birder in the Talbot County Bird Club, led field trips, and served as treasurer for over thirty years. He also served as auditor of the MOS treasurer's records for several years. Although Mrs. Oakley was a member of the Talbot County chapter, she rarely attended meetings or bird walks. When John Wanuga died in a car accident, he left a

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MOS Scholarship Bequests

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considerable amount of money to MOS which was restricted to purchasing a sanctuary on the Eastern Shore. That money was used to purchase additional land adjacent to the entrance road at the Horseheads Wetlands Center in Grasonville in Queen Anne's County. When Doris in turn passed away, she also left money to MOS which was unrestricted. Approximately $42,000, which was one-half of the first distribution in stocks and cash, was used to more than double the scholarship endowment fund. The other half created a research endowment fund. The first Doris Oakley scholarship was awarded in 2000 to Laura Taylor from Prince George's County. She attended the Connecticut ecology camp.

Chandler and Eleanor Robbins Scholarships — Although most established members of MOS already know Chan and Eleanor, many new members may not be aware of their many accomplishments and contributions to the organization. Because of their generosity two scholarships are awarded each year in their names.

Chandler Robbins is a wildlife biologist at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in Laurel, MD. For the past 55 years he has studied migratory bird populations throughout the world. In the scientific community he is best known for developing the Breeding Bird Survey, which has been monitoring changes in bird populations throughout the continental United States and Canada for the past 35 years. This annual survey has revealed that many species of birds are declining in abundance, so for the past 25 years, Chan has been studying the reasons for these declines. Within the birding community, Chan is best known for his Golden Field Guide, Birds of North America, which has sold over five million copies. In the summers, Chan studies habitat requirements and nesting success of migratory birds in MD, and in the winters he takes teams of biologists and students to tropical countries where they study the effects of habitat loss and fragmentation of tropical forests. Chan has been a gentle but guiding force in MOS since its beginnings in 1945. He has also been the very meticulous and exacting editor of **Maryland Birdlife** since 1948 and was the senior editor of the **Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Maryland and the District of Columbia**, which was published in 1996. (Anne Arundel Bird Club, Richard Heise Lecture, Chandler Robbins Profile, April, 2000)

In 1981 the MOS board decided to create a new scholarship named for Chandler S. Robbins. It was to be awarded to a MD student who was interested in studying ornithology, and, at that time, the designated workshop was at the Laboratory of Ornithology at Cornell University. The first scholarship awarded in Chan's honor was given in 1982 to Richard O. Bray of Bethesda. He was a member of the Montgomery County Chapter of MOS and attended a workshop on bird behavior at Cornell. (**Maryland Birdlife**, Vol. 28, No. 2, June 1982)

Eleanor Robbins is originally from Washington , DC and was born on May 6, 1916. Her father had a Ph.D. in plant physiology and pathology, although she describes him as self-taught regarding local plants, so her interest in botany was probably a result of his influence. She graduated from Washington and Lee High School in Arlington, VA and went to Duke Women's College. After two years she transferred to the University of Maryland at College Park where she majored in zoology and minored in botany. Any MOS members who have ever been on a field trip with Eleanor have been impressed with her ability to give the Latin botanical names for plants and wildflowers. (Her father had been sent to Beltsville to the one building for the Department of Agriculture to do research, so their residence changed to Beltsville. At one point he did research on the apple trees at Arlington Cemetery.) She went on to Cornell for a master's degree in ornithology and botany. Because there were no jobs available, she went to the University of Minnesota and studied botany and library science and then got a job in the botany / chemistry / pharmacy library at Iowa State University in Iowa City. At one point she took a course in insects at Michigan State University and also developed an interest in butterflies. She later became a reference librarian at the Department of Agriculture in Washington. She and Chan met on a field trip that Chan led for Audubon Naturalist Society at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in 1946. They were married in 1948. They have four children—Jan, Stuart, George Chandler, and Nancy—and two granddaughters—Melissa (who was Miss New Hampshire a few years ago) and Michelle. For many years Eleanor wrote a newspaper column for the Laurel Leader about the Patuxent Bird Club, which she and Rosemary Bridge started in 1960. Chan and Eleanor have attended many meetings of the International Ornithological Congress which is held every four years. This took them to Great Britain and the Shetland Islands, Holland, Hudson Bay and Australia, among other places. They have also traveled to Antarctica, Peru, the Galapagos Islands, and Africa. In the late 1950's Eleanor attended an MOS conference and was frustrated that no mention was made of Helen Miller and all of her contributions to school children and nature study, so she decided to name a scholarship in her honor. Helen Miller had passed away in 1958.

In 1983 the MOS officers and board of directors decided to make another scholarship available to mark the 25th anniversary of the death of Helen Miller and the founding of the fund which bears her name. It was decided to name this award the Eleanor C. Robbins scholarship and to designate it for an ornithology workshop. This second scholarship enabled MOS to honor both of the founders of the scholarship program. The first winner of the Eleanor C. Robbins scholarship in 1983 was Rick Holt, a MD State Park Ranger with a special interest in birding and community education in birding. A standing ovation was given to Chan and Eleanor at the 1983 state conference for anonymously funding and thus launching this program 25 years earlier and for supporting it financially through the years. (**Maryland Birdlife**, Vol. 39, No. 3, September 1983)

Frances Covington-Etta Wedge Scholarship — MOS received a $32,000 unassigned bequest in 1999 from the estate of Frances Covington in memory of her friend, Etta Stern Wedge. Both of these women had been members of the Baltimore Bird Club, and both had worked as librarians at the Enoch Pratt Free Library (EPFL) in Baltimore.

Frances Covington was born in Austin, Texas in 1918. She was educated in Utah and received her bachelor's degree from the University of Utah and her master's in Library Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. At age twenty-three she took her position at EPFL, where she worked until her retirement in 1976. The last twenty-one years of her life were spent in North Carolina, but she continued her membership and interest in the Baltimore Bird Club for many years after leaving Maryland. In 1981 she gave a gift of $1,000 to the Baltimore Bird Club in memory of her friend, Etta Wedge, upon Etta's death. Through the perseverance of Barbara Larrabee and Marjorie Jones, that money was used to develop the Etta Stern Wedge Bird Trail at Cylburn Mansion in Baltimore and plant bird-friendly shrubbery along its edges.

Etta Stern Wedge (1908—1981) was also employed by EPFL from 1945 until 1956. Apparently these two women became friendly as a result of their profession and developed that friendship further in their birding activities. Etta acted as program chair of the Baltimore Bird Club for a few years, one of those being 1971-72, when she arranged for lectures by Jean Worthley, Chandler Robbins, and Haven Kolb, among others. She also arranged trips to Irish Grove, to Sandy Point to see Snow Buntings, and to Elliott Island in Dorchester County. Joy Wheeler, of the Baltimore Club, still remembers seeing her first American Bittern standing in the tall marsh grasses with its beak

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MOS Scholarship Bequests

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pointed skyward on the Elliott Island trip. No other biographical information on Ms. Wedge is available.

A total of $15,000 of Ms. Covington's bequest was assigned to the MOS scholarship fund. Funds from that investment have made this scholarship available. It was awarded for the first time in 2001 to Karen Cifranick from Harford County who attended the Natural History of the Maine Coast camp.

Many thanks to Dr. Bill Novak, Sally Waldschmidt, Joy Wheeler, Pat Wilson, and Dr. Don Messersmith who provided information and details to assist in compiling these profiles. I would appreciate being made aware of errors, since I never met any of these persons, except for Chan and Eleanor.

Chapter Chatter

(continued from page 3, column 3)

Robin (THE 700), and Hook-billed Kite (701). The count continues. It was followed by Great Skua (702) in NC in February, and Kirtland's Warbler (703) and LeConte's Sparrow (704) in Michigan in May. The Coskrens are going to try for Himalayan Snowcock and Black Rosy Finch in Nevada's Ruby Mountains in August.

Allegany Chapter Creates An Effective Brochure Plus A Garrett County Bird List — Jon Boone, a Chapter member, designed and printed an Allegany County Bird Club brochure which has been distributed throughout Allegany and Garrett Counties. It has proven to be very effective. Since its debut, the club has 12 new members. Jon Boone, Connie Skipper, Fran Pope, and Marshall Iliff also designed and printed a new bird list for Garrett County, which is also being widely distributed. The cover for this guide was a painting of an Upland Sandpiper by Jon Boone. The project was made possible by the Chamber of Commerce of Garrett County. Copies are available at the Visitor Center in McHenry. You may also send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Jon Boone, 503 East Alder St., Oakland, MD 21550-3840.

MOS Members Visit Lake Erie — Gail Frantz of the Baltimore Bird Club sends in a report on a very successful birding trip. "During the week of May 14-19, eighteen members of MOS visited Crane Creek, Ohio on Lake Erie's southwestern shore. This refuge is what's left of a 3000 square mile wetland that at one time covered most of Northern Ohio. Even after hundreds of years the birds still rest and refuel at this hot spot. Birders are able to walk around the refuge on boardwalks which give viewers outstandingly close looks at migrants and resident birds. The MOS was represented at the swamp by bird club members from Baltimore, Montgomery, and Allegany counties. Baltimore County alone had 9 gleeful birders racking up 123 species, 23 of them warblers. Some favorites were a Sora with chicks, Yellow-bellied Flycatchers, Mourning Warblers, and a lingering Kirtland's Warbler that stayed over on his way to Michigan. Are we going next year? You betcha!"

Anne Arundel Members Reach a Milestone — Norm & Fran Saunders both hit that magic North American "650" mark this past Spring during a three-week trip to Alaska. Norm's 650th was an Ivory Gull at Safety Lagoon, Nome, on June 9, while Fran's was a Red-faced Cormorant seen two days later on St. Paul Island, in the Pribilofs. Norm & Fran had 196 species on this, their first (but hopefully not the last) trip to Alaska and tallied 40 lifers. Norm ended the trip with a Black-backed Woodpecker for his 662nd North American species and the same bird was Fran's 660th! For a complete trip list and description of their itinerary, contact Norm at ***marshhawk@att.net***.

Cecil Marks Earth Day At Fair Hill — The Cecil Chapter, a sponsor of the Fair Hill Nature and Environmental Center, joined in on April 22 to celebrate Earth Day at an annual fund raising event. Parke John, Susan Peterson, Tom Raub, and Leslie and Harry Fisher plus canine corps members Billie and Bunkie Fisher hiked and birded to raise money for Fair Hill. The Center is a Cecil County outdoor education school. Charlie Gant, who spent most of the day in the creek helping to identify all things that crept or crawled, was featured on the front page of the Cecil Whig with Girl Scouts from Oxford, Pennsylvania who were working towards ecology merit badges.

Anne Arundel Member Birds Costa Rica and Marks Her 600th — Janelle Dietrich took a 12 day trip to Costa Rica in April. She actually saw 253 different species and heard 26 more for a trip total of 279. In that terrific list was her 600th bird – a Scarlet Macaw. Janelle says she "couldn't have picked a better, more beautiful bird if I had planned it." She actually spotted 56 of them flying over for 10 minutes. She also saw five Resplendent Quatzels: a female sitting on the nest and four males in full plumage. Janelle says, "If you have never birded Costa Rica, please consider it. It was wonderful and well worth the trip!"

Montgomery Birders Celebrate the 50th — Helen and David Gray Celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary in Egypt, arriving romantically on St. Valentine's Day at the famous Shepheard's Hotel in Cairo. They were enrolled in an Elderhostel program on cultural anthropology, but they had ample time for birding. They noticed that certain birds seemed to frequent temple areas. Egypt has no endemics but it is a major flyway for Palearctic migrants from mid-February to April. Fewer than 150 species breed in Egypt and may be considered resident. Special finds were the Pale Crag Martin, Yellow Wagtail, Little Green Bee-eater, Trumpeter Finch, Graceful Prinia, Nile Valley Sunbird, Honey Buzzard, Pallid Swift, Hoopoe, and Squacco Heron.

Turkey Point Hawkwatch in Cecil County

by Leslie Fisher

Another season of hawk watching, anticipated by many, is fast approaching at Turkey Point. The Cecil Bird Club hopes to see many of you again during this season, which begins with our September 1 field trip. Without too much trouble, I can quickly come up with a handful of regular visitors from other chapters in seasons past. It has been most enjoyable in the past hosting our birding cohorts from around Maryland and beyond, and definitely something to look forward to again this year.

With that in mind, I hope many of you will be able to attend our first annual "ALL CHAPTERS MOS" field trip to Turkey Point on October 20th. As always, there can never be too many volunteer counters to draw from. While we had excellent coverage last year, I am always looking for more. At this time, we only lack a regular counter on Mondays, but afternoons continue to be sparsely covered. Also, I'm sure our regular counters would welcome some extra eyes. If there is anyone out there who would like to volunteer on a regular or "as needed" basis, please get in touch with me before the season begins. I can be reached at gonbrdn@dol.net or 410-658-2427. While I will continue to handle the volunteer coordination, CBC member Dave Kimball has agreed to take on the data keeping, so I will provide prospective counters with his contact information.

Exciting news for this year, is that Rick Kearney, a volunteer with the Maryland Audubon Society, is using data from the hawk watch to nominate Turkey Point as an IMPORTANT BIRD AREA (IBA), for its 'importance to migrating raptors.' I was contacted by Mr. Kearney in mid June with the request for use of CBC data to this end. Briefly, as described to me by Mr. Kearney, the IBA program implements recommendations from the Partners in Flight bird conservation strategies, to identify and protect areas vital for bird populations. A copy of this report has been promised to Cecil Bird Club, and I will keep Maryland birders apprised of the outcome of this nomination.

See you all at Turkey Point!!

The 2001 C&O Canal Mid-Winter Count

by Mike Milton

Results of the Third Annual Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park Mid-Winter Bird Survey are now in! All reports have been received, reviewed, and tabulated. The C&O Survey is DC Audubon's most ambitious birding activity, intended to give a detailed picture of winter birdlife along the entire 184.5 miles of the Park, from Georgetown to Cumberland.

We scheduled the survey for Sunday, January 21, avoiding Inauguration Day. Again this year, the weather was uncooperative. In 1999 we had rain on the morning of the survey; in 2000 the threat of a snowstorm, and in 2001 we had an actual snowstorm of greater duration and accumulation than had been forecast, although the skies cleared by afternoon of count day. All 185 mile-segments had been definitely assigned, but the snow made it impossible or imprudent for some participants to reach the Canal towpath. The actual coverage was 129 miles this year, compared to 138 in 1999, and 142 in 2000. (The 129-mile total does not include three miles counted in a make-up outing the following Friday.) We are confident of achieving 100% coverage in 2002, based on the enthusiastic comments of the 70 birders who participated in 2001, and the obviously sincere regrets of those who had conflicts or were snowed in. As in previous years, our Allegany County coverage is owed to the organizing efforts of Ray Kiddy of Cumberland, and we look forward to support from the Potomac Valley Audubon chapter, based in Shepherdstown WV, for the Washington County portion of the survey.

The weather probably contributed to the low landbird count, whether because birders got late starts, or because the birds genuinely made themselves scarce. Individuals other than geese and ducks numbered about 7770, compared with 11081 in 2000 and 7928 in 1999. Canada Goose unsurprisingly was the most abundant species at 5149 (some double counting of flocks is probable, but impossible to correct for) followed by 1837 Ring-Necked Ducks. Our species total was 80, against 89 in both previous years. The species total excludes Cooper's Hawk, American Kestrel, and Brown-Headed Cowbird. The last three species were seen by a birder stationed on the old Western Maryland railroad bridge at mile 183, unfortunately not within the bounds for the survey, as the bridge is barely outside the Park limits. Species first recorded in 2001 were Northern Shoveler, Northern Pintail, Gray Catbird, the archivable but uncountable Brown-Headed Cowbird, and - the most exciting addition - an adult and an immature Golden Eagle. Blue Goose was a repeat, almost certainly the same individual seen in 2000.

After three years, the C&O Mid-Winter Survey has become a welcome event for regional birders, and is starting to provide interesting year-to-year and mile-to-mile comparative distributional information. Excel® spreadsheets with the 1999, 2000, and 2001 complete tallies can be emailed. Send your request to ***mikemilton@attglobal.net***.

Coverage and Participation — As mentioned above, the survey has gained acceptance, notwithstanding the decrease in miles actually counted in 2001. If the weather cooperates in 2002 – this is after all a mid-winter count - the goal of 183 mile-segments should be achieved on the ground, as it was on paper this year. Perhaps NPS will reconstruct the towpath at miles 86-87, or an intrepid kayaker will bird that stretch, for literal 100% coverage. Vankevich's vision vindicated!

Besides the snow, our January 21 date coincided with the Frederick County winter count, which we anticipated, and with the Prince George's County winter count, which we did not anticipate. It was a week after the Allegany County winter count, where co-incidence would have been a plus. As always in the case of conflict, birders should honor their commitments and give priority to the activities of their own organizations.

Participants enjoyed the count, low numbers and predictable species notwithstanding. All are aware that negative or routine results contribute, over time, to an interesting and useful data collection for this IBA..

The spreadsheet displays the three-mile count conducted on Jan. 26, and the additional count of mile-segment 182 conducted from just outside the Park boundary. The observations are omitted from row and column totals, as the additional coverage, although welcome, is outside the defining conditions of the survey. The "view from the bridge" in mile-segment 182 reported 19 species, not one of which was among the 12 species reported from the towpath.

As bad-weather strategies for 2002 and future years, we may try better last-minute communications for redeployment, and more one and two mile assignments.

Species Comments — The 1999-2001 numbers are generally in line with Hatfield et al., Distribution and Abundance of Birds Wintering in Maryland, 1988-1993, *Maryland Birdlife* 50:1-4 (1994).

Waterfowl: Appalling goose numbers. As noted, waterfowl results are subject to major vagaries of double-counting and undercounting, as a flock may or may not be in view from a given river access point, and no counting protocols are in force, beyond general encouragement to check out the river.

The two Hooded Mergansers in mile-segment 64 are inferred from the four reported in 65. The observer saw three distant pairs, but reserved his ID because of apparent size discrepancy compared with Ring-billed Gulls and Common Mergansers.

Raptors: The adult Golden Eagle in 143 was well described. An immature was also seen at 182, from the RR bridge just outside of the count area.

Galliforms: Grouse in 1999; Turkey in 2000; both in 2001.

Woodpeckers: What other birds with numbers like 988 in 2001, and 1477 in 2000, are actually ticked off one-by-one? Our totals are still less than a usual Seneca Christmas Count. No Red-Headed yet.

The 211 Yellow-Bellied Sapsuckers in 2000 certainly represented a real increase in numbers, for that winter. The 2001 count of this migrant reverted to 54, more in line with expected ratios to other woodpeckers. Downy Woodpecker, recorded from 102 sectors, yielded to American Crow (105) as the most ubiquitous species.

Phoebe: The three-year total of 55 breaks down: 6 in the lower half of the Canal, below mile 93; 49 in the upper half. The pattern is consistent with Hatfield et. al., who show some concentration in the area of Hancock. Why such upstream distribution of this semi-hardy species?

Chickadees: The maps in Hatfield et al. show overlap of Black-Capped and Carolina, and mention "difficulty in distinguishing hybrids", approximately between Sharpsburg and Little Orleans, i.e. about mile 70 to 140. This does not imply that the distribution is symmetric over that range. The most careful observations from our survey were Dave Smith's in 2000 in mile-segments 122-125. He found mostly intermediates with more Carolina-like characteristics, and some distinct Black-capped. The 2002 (e)mailings to participants could well include a discussion of field characters, with criteria for when to record Carolina, or Black-Capped, or "sp". Peter Vankevich and I have emended some "sp." reports to Carolina, and some Black-Capped to "sp.", where no details were offered.

Kinglets: Low numbers in 2000 (20 Golden-Crowned, 19 Ruby-Crowned) must have been real, whether or not significant. The 2001 count was 164 Golden, 64 Ruby.

Bluebird: From count-afternoon reports, it seemed everyone was finding bluebirds. Indeed, the 52 mile-sectors in which they were found was one more than in 2000, but the count was lower, in line with passerine numbers generally.

Conclusions — Thanks again to all participants. Discussion topic: should we move this survey in the direction of a true bird census - i.e. more standardized observation protocols?

Maryland Yellowthroats and the 2001 World Series of Birding

by Norm Saunders

Once again our intrepid team of birders descended, on May 12, on New Jersey. Hal Wierenga, Lynn Davidson, Mark Hoffman, and Marshall Iliff spent 24 hours combing Cape May County for migrant and nesting species, attempting to garner the highest count of species in this annual competition to raise funds for conservation efforts. Migration this year was great, for the birds that is. The weather was favorable for long flights with virtually no migrant fallouts, so the numbers were down a bit from last year and the advantage went to the local teams. Nonetheless, our team did very well, tallying 168 species and coming in second in the Cape May County competition, four behind Michael O'Brien's 172 species. For those of you new to Maryland birding, Mike O'Brien was born and bred in Maryland and only moved to Cape May after his reputation as one of the Nation's premier field birders was already well-established. There is no shame in coming in second to Mike's team!

Pledges and/or donations were received from ninety individuals or families this year. To date we have grossed just a bit over $3,400 with net revenue to MOS of more than $1,300. Over the past four years our team has been fortunate enough to collect over $13,000 in pledges and donations, of which, more than $6,000 has been available for our conservation and education programs. During the past few years funds from the World Series of Birding have funded the Mist Net Replacement program, managed by the MOS Research Committee, and have allowed the Scholarship Committee to award three additional Audubon Scholarships to educators from around Maryland. An additional $3,000 has not yet been allocated but awaits a worthy conservation-related cause.

A hearty thanks to all of our 2001 participants! Here they are, and if I inadvertently omitted anyone, I apologize in advance:

Henry Armistead
Paula Becker
Lisa Bellamy
Mary-Jo Betts
Joy & Michael Bowen
Jeanne Bowman
Carol & Don Broderick
Dorothy Brodie
Anne Brooks
Donna Brown
Lori Byrne
Martha Chestem
Jane Coskren
Patty Craig
Mary Ann Todd & Dave Czaplak
Suzanne Dater
Suzonne & John Davidson
Rich Dolesh
Barbara & Irving Dow
Rebecca & Mark Eanes
Paula Ecker
Jane & Fred Fallon
Jane Farber
Leslie & Harry Fisher
Helen & John Ford
Doug Forsell
Sam Freiberg
Jean & Larry Fry
Helene Gardel
Shirley Geddes
Jane & Ralph Geuder
Deb & Keith Gingrich
Janet & Fred Godshall
Amy Gordon
Helen Gray
Dot Gustafson
Peter Hanan
Maureen & Dave Harvey
Allan Haury
Pierre Henkart
Barbara Holloman
Kim Hudyma
Betty & Frank Hughes
Stephen Hult
Lynn Isackson
Parke John
Virginia Johnson
Ron Kelczewski
Lynn Kenny
Dave Kimball
Debi & Mike Klein, The Backyard Naturalist
Shirley Kramer
Jean Lacerte
Gladys Lambert
Tim Larney
Candi & Rick Lee
Hugh Mahanes
Elayne & Jeff Metter
Janet Millenson
Harry Mitchell
Karen Morley
Paul O'Brien
Nancy & Doug Parker
Helen Patton
Dave Powell
Wafi Rains
Sue Ricciardi
Grace-Louise & George Rickard
Bob Rineer
Eleanor & Chan Robbins
Johnna Robinson
Mark Rollag
Barbara & Alan Ross
Sally Rowe
Steve Sanford
Ron Sarno
Fran & Norm Saunders
Lydia Schindler
Janet & Bill Shields
Esther Smith
Jo & Bob Solem
Paul Speyser
Betsy & Ralph Stephens
Chuck Stirrat
Kathy & Bob Talbot
Pat Tate
Glenn Therres
Patricia Tice
Linda & Van Vogel
Leo Weigant
Harold Wierenga
Pat Wilson
Carole & Bob Winter
Paul Zucker

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World Series 2001

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As in the past three years, Fran and I went to New Jersey on the weekend of the World Series to cheer our team on and to attend with them the Sunday Awards Brunch. This year, while we were out birding on Saturday, we happened to stop at the Beanery, one of the hallowed sites in Cape May County. There we saw several vans with Maryland license plates, a large group of young birders, and a gaggle of adults accompanying them and looking somewhat bemused by the youngsters' talk of warbler song and feathering fine points.

We had stumbled upon the two fine youth division teams fielded by the Centreville Middle School (CMS) in Kent County, Maryland. We got to talking with George Radcliffe, their teacher, sponsor, and birding mentor, and the more we heard, the more amazed and impressed we were! We have all talked in the past about how to attract promising youngsters to birding but here was a man who had seventeen youngsters who in their two years of birding together had outrun their teacher's knowledge of birds and who were busy outrunning the other youth division teams competing in this year's World Series. To make a long story short, the CMS teams took first and second place in the youth division. The CMS Creepers saw 126 species and the CMS Night Herons tallied 124—an excellent day of birding indeed for these enthusiastic young birders from the 7th and 8th grades!

George Radcliffe agreed to write up an article about the team, and the results of that promise, including photographs and written by the students as well as by Radcliffe, follows!

Centreville MD Middle School Teams Win World Series of Birding Youth Division

by CMS Students & Their Teacher

The Big Day

On May 10, 2001, at 6 o'clock in the morning, the Centreville Middle School Birding Group hopped in cars and headed to Cape May, New Jersey, to participate in the 18th annual World Series of Birding. The actual event was not until Saturday, May 12, but the group of young birders, grades 6-8 had to do scouting to find where the birds are for the "Big Day".

The World Series of Birding is an international birding competition that has been raising money for nature conservation efforts since 1984. In this year's event, 61 teams were participating. Two of the teams were from CMS. The CMS Night-Herons members were Jim Wilson, Jessica Vooris, Zach Walls, Kristen McGeeney, Olivia Wood, Chris Anger, and Jarred Melvin. On the CMS Creepers were Zach Baer, Ben Thiesse, Brad Dauer, Jessie Shultz, Megan Wise, and Ayana Davis. Each team had two support persons, to keep track of species seen and organize the sightings. Support for the Night-herons was Selby Miller and Melissa Burner, and for the Creepers, Will Covington and Libby Aull. Most people wouldn't know what a Night-Heron or Creeper is, but these students had to learn to identify the many species they would see in Cape May.

In the 2 days before Saturday the groups went scouting for places to find the birds. They traveled all around Cape May County, visiting the many hotspots like Belleplain State Forest, Stone Harbor Point, Jake's Landing, Nummy's Island, and many more. On the night before, the group sat down to put an itinerary together for the next day.

At 3 AM Saturday, May 12, the CMS Birding Group got up, got ready, and jumped in their parent-driven cars. Their "Big Day" had begun! Their first stop was Jake's Landing, a forest and marsh habitat where they would listen for night birds and rails. The groups quickly picked up a Great Horned Owl and a Virginia Rail, a hard to see marsh bird. By the time they left, the group had picked up several other species and felt like they were off to a sound start.

Next they headed for Belleplain State Forest, a great spot to hear warblers. On the way there, the Night-Herons heard one sound they hadn't counted on—a large thud as their minivan hit one of the many guinea fowl that roamed the area. This was not the way to get birds. Worse yet, we couldn't count it because it was a domesticated species.

The morning continued, and the group visited other spots including the CMBO (Cape May Bird Observatory), Reed's Beach and a Wawa, for a necessary pit stop. By 10 AM, the groups were down at Cape May Point Island. The first stop there was alongside a field, where they hoped to hear a bobolink. Unfortunately, they did not hear any.

After that disappointment it was on to Higbee Beach. When scouting the day before, they had heard and seen a Black-billed Cuckoo, an uncommon bird. Sure enough, both groups saw the bird there again, almost in the same place as the day before. Scouting does pay off! After finishing birding at Higbee, the group moved on to Hidden Valley, a nature area. Here the Creepers found a rare Red-headed Woodpecker, and the Night-Herons got a good view of a Rose-breasted Grosbeak.

Next stop was the Cape May Point State Park, followed by the Cape May Bird Observatory where they stopped to eat lunch. By lunchtime the groups had accumulated over one hundred species, breaking last year's score of eighty-one. After lunch it was off to the Cape May Meadows and then the Beanery. The Beanery is a private property. It is farm area accessible to the World Series participants. Here we found our nineteenth warbler species, the Northern Waterthrush.

During the rest of the afternoon, the groups went up and down the coast, searching for shorebirds. We found Whimbrels, both species of loons, the rare Piping Plover, and finally a Black Skimmer. Then, at around 8:30 PM, they returned to the Cape May Meadows. It was getting darker outside by the minute, but the meadow was supposed to be a good spot to find the American Woodcock. Sure enough, after a short wait, they heard the distinctive, short, throaty, nasal "eenk" call. The Creepers even saw the bird as it flew by.

When they left the meadows, it was totally dark out and starting to drizzle, but their big day was not yet over. They headed back to the Beanery for one last stop to listen for owls. The group had Ayana imitate a Screech Owl call, hoping to get an owl to reply. The first response was from a cow! Finally, a Barred Owl did reply, our 126th species of the day.

After that, the Big Day was pretty much over except for check-in. At the check- in Point, the groups tallied up their bird species seen. For the final count, the Creepers had 126 and the Night-Herons had 124. The counts were good enough to give the CMS teams first and second place in the Youth K-8 Category.

Getting to participate in the World Series of Birding was an experience that none of the CMS students will ever forget.

- Jim Wilson (student)

A Teacher's Perspective

Getting students interested in birding at a young age is a most difficult task because it requires personal skills that most of us don't acquire until later in life: long attention span, perseverance through the learning process, being unafraid to look like a fool while learning, and showing interest in something that is stereotypically not a youth interest. But they

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The CMS Birding Teams

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also have qualities that make them well qualified. They have a passion to learn, a natural interest in nature, and much better hearing and eyesight than many of us. How do you overcome those other obstacles and light the fire that sets them on their way? And how did this all happen in a big way in our middle school on the Eastern Shore?

I have taught for 30 years and have always tried to kindle a love of nature in students. Birds are such a vital part of that natural world that we want to expose students to. I am still, however, an amateur, and that has its advantages. There is too much temptation to simply say, "There's a Common Yellowthroat." That does two things. First, it kills all curiosity that any student might have about the call. Second, it makes everyone else feel stupid because they didn't know that. So I feel that my ignorance is ironically an advantage. I ask questions.

But you can't always "make a horse drink." It has to want to drink, and that comes from within, not from the teacher. For years Centreville Middle School has always had an Ecology Corps that has built trails, monitored water quality, created wetlands, and attracted and monitored bird species. Teachers sometimes get too much credit for things students do. The best thing we can do is empower them and remove roadblocks to their success. They have the energy to move mountains.

Each year a new group of students would come along, and the process of learning would begin anew. Two things changed that made birding the centerpiece of a continuing program. One of our students went to Cape May, and heard about the World Series of Birding, an almost 2-decade old event put on by the New Jersey Audubon Society. This presented an element of competition to what we already did. Competition is often frowned about in education, but students thrive on it, even with all its pitfalls. It is a large part of the reason that sports predominates in most children's lives. Why not add it into the academic world?

But a teacher can't set the ball rolling. If it were my idea, it would be dead in its tracks. An idea must come from within the student(s). This time there was a small core of students with the interest and perseverance. And the program and momentum built on their shoulders. Parent support was needed to keep the program on the track. Without that strong parent support, there are enough distractions in a child's life to derail the process. That first year (2000) the students got organized and found some success (81 species). But with their experience they saw how to better train, the importance of scouting, and the importance of learning the "total bird": field marks, call, behavior, and habitat. The goal of beating that total of 81 drove them to heights to which I never could have pushed them.

A year later they are a different group. Warblers are no longer that impossible frustration, and the students now pick up behavioral clues that were overlooked before. They delight in identifying birds better than the old man can in some cases. Most importantly they have the confidence they lacked before. But they realize how much hard work it took to get to that confidence level. How many groups would not have that stamina to get to that level?

The World Series of Birding is a great event, and the Cape May Area is a spectacular area. New Jersey Audubon needs to be commended for putting on a class event and for making the students feel like VIPs.

The group now has a website that they have put up and maintain. See: ***http://www.qacps.k12.md.us/cms/sci/corpbird.HTM***. At Centreville Middle School the birding is extending to other students and becoming an all-year activity. The group sponsored a County Feederwatch last spring, involving many others. We'd love to see other Maryland Youth Groups and Schools get involved. No area has as much to offer as our own state. What a great way to get students from different areas of the State to interact, share, and show off the feathered jewels of their area.

- George Radcliffe (teacher)

Student Memories

"We were standing in the dark at Jake's Landing. It was almost pitch black and silent except for the occasional sound of mosquitoes being swatted. In the distance a Great Horned Owl hooted faintly. Suddenly out in the marsh a red-winged blackbird called. Then another began. Around us on all sides the marsh was starting to come to life. On the horizon the sky was just starting to lighten. Seaside sparrows started to call, and rails clapped. As the sky continued to brighten, the marsh erupted with sound. Our Big Day had begun."

- Jessica Vooris (student)

"It was a little before lunch, the sun was high in the sky, but many of the birds were still singing. The group was at the Cape May Point State Park, following a trail through scrub brush and wetland areas behind the dunes. We were on a platform overlooking a pond.

Directly across the pond there was a Wood Duck box poking up through the Phragmites. Poking out through the hole was a silent and motionless blob. This was the same blob seen the day before while scouting. It couldn't be alive. But then 'It moved! It moved!' someone shouted. Now all eyes were focused on it looking for some field marks. It turned out to be a juvenile Black-crowned Night-Heron. It just goes to show that it pays to look at something carefully."

-Jim Wilson (student)

"It was late in the evening, and the teams were showing signs of exhaustion. We had been up for 18 hours of continuous birding at this point. Our teams had hoped to see at least 100 species, and by now our totals had exceeded 120. So we had surpassed our wildest expectations. What was one more species? But we sucked it in and went back out into Cape May Meadows to find that last rare species.

Here we hoped on seeing an American Woodcock, which neither team had expected to see. Our scouting had told us that there was a chance of seeing one here after dusk. The two teams split, and our team decided to sit in the open field next to the woods. Fifteen minutes of sitting, and we hadn't seen our Woodcock. Then a stubby bird burst straight toward us, but because of the lack of light, I was the only one that could positively identify it. We couldn't count it! It seemed like our time and energy had been wasted.

Should we get up and leave. It was getting late. Then from the edge of the woods came a loud nasal "einck", music to our ears. All heard and saw it this time as it went through its incredible display. Our patience had paid off once again."

- Zach Baer (student)

MARYLAND FALL COUNT 2001

The annual Fall Seasonal Count sponsored by MOS will be held Saturday, September 15, 2001 in the Maryland-DC area. Several counties have been conducting organized counts for several years on the third Saturday of September. In fact, this will be the 12 th annual count for Allegany County. In areas without an identified coordinator, individual parties submit their results directly to the statewide coordinator for inclusion. Clubs that have not included a formal count in their programs this year are urged to plan to do so in future years.

Everyone is urged to participate; no matter your skill level. Identification is only part of being successful; you have to spot the bird first, so every pair of eyes helps. And even the most experienced can always use help with those confusing Fall warblers.

The guidelines for this count are the same as those used for the May Count. Coordinators will assign volunteers to areas, honoring requests whenever possible. Party leaders are responsible for tracking party miles and times, names of participants, and documentation for unusual sightings. A checklist compilation form is included in this issue that includes the species one would expect to find in Maryland during this season. Those species on the list requiring further written documentation are noted with asterisks, and all write-ins require full details. **Deadline for submitting completed reports to your county coordinator is no later than October 8, 2001.**

The county coordinators who have volunteered so far are listed below. Anyone interested in acting as a coordinator for another county are encouraged to volunteer. The list of coordinators will be updated on the MOS web site (http://www.MDBirds.org) as additional coordinators are identified. If you don't have web access or you are interested in counting in a county without a coordinator, you can contact the state Fall Count Coordinator directly. A copy of the checklist will also be available on the web site. Individual parties or other groups (e.g. Hawk Watch sites, field trips) who count in areas without a coordinator are asked to submit their data along with details on what area was covered directly to the state Fall Count Coordinator by October 8.

Count highlights, compilations, and lists of participants will appear in an article for **MD Birdlife.** Plan to join the fun and have a great day birding!

Chuck Stirrat, Fall Count Coordinator
13318 Hunt Ridge, Ellicott City, MD 21042-1155
Home phone: 410-531-2417
E-mail: Charles.Stirrat@jhuapl.edu

County Coordinators

Allegany: Ray Kiddy, 13103 Quarry Ridge Rd., Cumberland, MD 21502, 201-729-1979, rrkiddy@herintown.net
Baltimore: Debbie Terry, 747 Bomont Rd., Timonium, MD 21093, 410-252-8771, gt5s@erols.com
Calvert: Arlene Ripley, 3513 Smithville Dr., Dunkirk, MD 20754, 301-855-2848 or 410-257-6105, aripley@nestbox.com
Caroline: Debby Bennett, P.O. Box 404, Denton, MD 21629, 410-479-2978, dbennett@caro.lib.md.us
Carroll: Bob Ringler, 6272 Pinyon Pine Ct., Eldersburg, MD 21784, 410-549-6031, ringler@qis.net
Dorchester: Henry T. Armistead, 523 E. Durham St., Philadelphia, PA 19119, 215-248-4120, harryarmistead@hotmail.com
Frederick: Doug Parker, 9014 Mountainberry Circle, Frederick, MD 21702, 301-663-1909, parkernkda@aol.com
Howard: Mike McClure, 12237 Mt. Albert Rd., Ellicott City, MD 21042, 410-531-2780, Michael.McClure@jhuapl.edu

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County Compilers only: Send your compilations by October 22, 2001 to the Fall Count Coordinator at the address above or by e-mail (preferred method).

MD Fall Count Checklist **Date**: Sept. 15, 2001 **County:** _____ **Compiler:** _____

* Need some details ** Need full details *** All write-ins need full details Provide party data on back

Common Loon
Pied-billed Grebe
Horned Grebe**
Brown Pelican
Double-crested Cormorant
Great Cormorant**
American Bittern
Least Bittern
Great Blue Heron
Great Egret
Snowy Egret
Little Blue Heron
Tricolored Heron
Cattle Egret
Green Heron
Black-crowned Night-Heron
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron
White Ibis**
Glossy Ibis
Black Vulture
Turkey Vulture
Snow Goose
Canada Goose
Mute Swan
Wood Duck
Gadwall
American Wigeon
American Black Duck
Mallard
Blue-winged Teal
Northern Shoveler
Northern Pintail
Green-winged Teal
Canvasback*
Ring-necked Duck*
Greater Scaup*
Lesser Scaup*
unidentified scaup
Surf Scoter*
White-winged Scoter*
Black Scoter
Bufflehead**
Hooded Merganser
Common Merganser*
Red-breasted Merganser*
Ruddy Duck
Osprey
Bald Eagle [adult]
Bald Eagle [immature]
Bald Eagle [unknown age]
Northern Harrier
Sharp-shinned Hawk
Cooper's Hawk
unidentified Accipiter
Red-shouldered Hawk
Broad-winged Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk
unidentified Buteo
Golden Eagle*
American Kestrel
Merlin
Peregrine Falcon
Ring-necked Pheasant
Ruffed Grouse
Wild Turkey
Northern Bobwhite

Black Rail*
Clapper Rail
King Rail
Virginia Rail
Sora
Common Moorhen
American Coot
Sandhill Crane**
Black-bellied Plover
American Golden-Plover
Semipalmated Plover
Piping Plover
Killdeer
American Oystercatcher
American Avocet
Greater Yellowlegs
Lesser Yellowlegs
Solitary Sandpiper
Willet
Spotted Sandpiper
Upland Sandpiper
Whimbrel
Hudsonian Godwit*
Marbled Godwit*
Ruddy Turnstone
Red Knot
Sanderling
Semipalmated Sandpiper
Western Sandpiper
Least Sandpiper
White-rumped Sandpiper
Baird's Sandpiper
Pectoral Sandpiper
Dunlin
Stilt Sandpiper
Buff-breasted Sandpiper
Ruff*
Short-billed Dowitcher
Long-billed Dowitcher
Common Snipe
American Woodcock
Wilson's Phalarope
Red-necked Phalarope*
Red Phalarope*
Pomarine Jaeger*
Parasitic Jaeger*
Laughing Gull
Franklin's Gull*
Bonaparte's Gull
Ring-billed Gull
Herring Gull
Lesser Black-backed Gull
Great Black-backed Gull
unidentified gull
Gull-billed Tern*
Caspian Tern
Royal Tern
Sandwich Tern**
Common Tern
Forster's Tern
Least Tern
Black Tern
Black Skimmer
Rock Dove
Mourning Dove
Black-billed Cuckoo

Yellow-billed Cuckoo
Barn Owl
Eastern Screech-Owl
Great Horned Owl
Barred Owl
Northern Saw-whet Owl*
Common Nighthawk
Chuck-Will's-Widow*
Whip-Poor-Will
Chimney Swift
Ruby-throated Hummingbird
Belted Kingfisher
Red-headed Woodpecker
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Downy Woodpecker
Hairy Woodpecker
Northern Flicker
Pileated Woodpecker
Olive-sided Flycatcher
Eastern Wood-Pewee
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher
Acadian Flycatcher
Alder Flycatcher*
Willow Flycatcher*
Least Flycatcher
unidentified Empidonax
Eastern Phoebe
Great Crested Flycatcher
Western Kingbird*
Eastern Kingbird
Loggerhead Shrike*
White-eyed Vireo
Blue-headed Vireo
Yellow-throated Vireo
Warbling Vireo
Philadelphia Vireo
Red-eyed Vireo
Blue Jay
American Crow
Fish Crow
unidentified crow
Common Raven
Horned Lark
Purple Martin
Tree Swallow
N. Rough-winged Swallow
Bank Swallow
Cliff Swallow
Barn Swallow
Carolina Chickadee
Black-capped Chickadee
Tufted Titmouse
Red-breasted Nuthatch
White-breasted Nuthatch
Brown-headed Nuthatch
Brown Creeper
Carolina Wren
House Wren
Winter Wren
Sedge Wren*
Marsh Wren
Golden-crowned Kinglet
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Eastern Bluebird

Veery
Gray-cheeked Thrush
Bicknell's Thrush**
Swainson's Thrush
Hermit Thrush
Wood Thrush
American Robin
Gray Catbird
Northern Mockingbird
Brown Thrasher
European Starling
American Pipit
Cedar Waxwing
Blue-winged Warbler
Golden-winged Warbler
Tennessee Warbler
Orange-crowned Warbler*
Nashville Warbler
Northern Parula
Yellow Warbler
Chestnut-sided Warbler
Magnolia Warbler
Cape May Warbler
Blk.-thrtd. Blue Warbler
Yel.-rump'd (Myrtle) Warbler
Blk.-thrtd. Green Warbler
Blackburnian Warbler
Yellow-throated Warbler
Pine Warbler
Prairie Warbler
Palm Warbler [yellowish]
Palm Warbler [western]
Palm Warbler [unknown race]
Bay-breasted Warbler
Blackpoll Warbler
Cerulean Warbler*
Black-&-white Warbler
American Redstart
Prothonotary Warbler
Worm-eating Warbler
Ovenbird
Northern Waterthrush
Louisiana Waterthrush*
Kentucky Warbler*
Connecticut Warbler
Mourning Warbler
Common Yellowthroat
Hooded Warbler
Wilson's Warbler
Canada Warbler
Yellow-breasted Chat
unidentified warbler
Summer Tanager
Scarlet Tanager
Eastern Towhee
Chipping Sparrow
Clay-colored Sparrow*
Field Sparrow
Vesper Sparrow
Lark Sparrow*
Savannah Sparrow
Grasshopper Sparrow
Saltmarsh Sh'p-tailed Sparrow
Seaside Sparrow
Song Sparrow
Lincoln's Sparrow

Swamp Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow
White-crowned Sparrow
unidentified sparrow
Dark-eyed Junco
Northern Cardinal
Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Blue Grosbeak
Indigo Bunting
Dickcissel*
Bobolink
Red-winged Blackbird
Eastern Meadowlark
Yellow-headed Blackbird**
Rusty Blackbird**
Boat-tailed Grackle
Common Grackle
Brown-headed Cowbird
unidentified blackbird
Orchard Oriole
Baltimore Oriole
Purple Finch
House Finch
Pine Siskin**
American Goldfinch
Evening Grosbeak**
House Sparrow

Write-ins* (require full details):

Total Species
Total Individuals

* Need some details
** Need full details
*** **All write-ins need full details**

Guidelines for preparing documentation of rare bird sightings have appeared in prior Yellowthroat issues, are available on the MOS Website and are summarized on the back of this form. If you see a species requiring written details provide as much information as you are able, on as many separate sheets as necessary.

PARTY STATISTICS
County/Location:

Time Start:

Time Stop:

OWLING
Hours Owling:
Miles Owling:
Parties Owling:
Observers Owling:

REGULAR
Hours Foot:
Hours Car:
Hours Boat:
Hours other: ( )
Miles Foot:
Miles Car:
Miles Boat:
Miles Other:
Parties Regular:
Observers Regular:

STATIONARY (e.g. hawk watch)
Hours Stationary:

FEEDER WATCHING (actual time counting only at feeders):
Hours Feeder Watching:

WEATHER

	Temp	Wind[1]	%Clouds	Precip[2]
Pre-dawn				
Dawn				
AM				
Noon				
PM				
Dusk				
Post-dusk				

[1] Speed and wind direction, i.e. SE5-10
[2] Heavy (hard downpour); Moderate (steady rainfall); Light (steady drizzle); Misty; Foggy; Intermittent Drizzle

COMPILER/PARTY LEADER
Compiled by:
Address:

Phone:
E-mail:

Alphabetical List of Participants
(continue on separate sheet if necessary):

Compilers: Send compilations by October 22, 2001 to Chuck Stirrat, Fall Count Coordinator, 13318 Hunt Ridge, Ellicott City, MD 21045-1155. Email reports (preferred) should be sent to: Charles.Stirrat@jhuapl.edu

FALL COUNT 2001
Sightings Notes

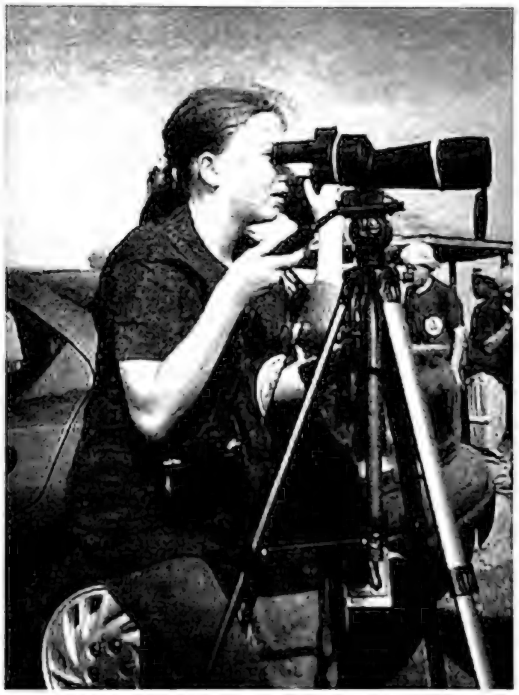
Sightings Details Guidelines:

1. Description of Size, Shape and Plumage
   a. Size relative to other birds.
   b. Head: shape, patterns, colors.
   c. Bill: length, shape, color.
   d. Eye: color, ring?
   e. Plumage details: nape, back, rump, wings(upper and under), coverts, tail, throat, chin, breast, belly. Patterned or plain? Colors?
   f. Legs and feet: length, colors, shape.
   g. Condition: signs of molt or wear. Marked, tagged or banded?
2. Number of birds.
3. Sex and age, by plumage or behavior.
4. Behavior.
   a. Posture, vocalizations, feeding method, preening or sleeping, flight pattern or style, interaction with other birds.
5. Other Birds Present?
6. Location.
   a. Place name, county and state, habitat.
7. Conditions.
   a. cloud cover?, wind speed and direction, temperature, precipitation?, water conditions, duration of sighting, time of day, distance of bird form observer, sun location relative to bird and observer.
8. Observer Details.
   a. Optics details, field guides, etc., consulted, experience with this species, years birding, other observers present.

It's difficult to note everything, but, the more the better. Besides, you do want that record accepted, don't you?

County Compilers only: Send your compilations by October 22, 2001 to the Fall Count Coordinator at the address on the first page of this insert, or by e-mail (preferred method).

The CMS Birders



Minutes of the MOS Board Meeting

10 March 2001

President: Karen Morley
Vice President: Paul Zucker
Treasurer: Shiras Guion
Secretary: Janet Shields
Executive Secretary: Larry Fry
Past President: Norm Saunders

Atlas: Jane Coskren
Budget: Paul Zucker
Conference: Mike Callahan
Conservation: Maureen Harvey
Library Committee: Joy Wheeler
MD Yellowthroat: Norm Saunders
Publications: Chan Robbins
Publicity: Fran Saunders
Sanctuary: Dotty Mumford
Sanctuary Project: Bob Rineer
Sales: Don Culbertson
Scholarship: Jean Fry
Seasonal Counts: Bob Ringler
Website: Fran Saunders
World Series of Birding: Norm Saunders

Allegany: not represented
Ann Arundel: Linda Baker, Gary Flenner, Al Haury, Dale Johnson, Dotty Mumford, Fran Saunders, Norm Saunders
Baltimore: Jeanne Bowman, Don Culbertson, Ruth Culbertson, Helene Gardel, Dot Gustafson, Bob Rineer, Joy Wheeler
Caroline: not represented
Carroll: Maureen Harvey, Bob Ringler
Cecil: not represented
Frederick: Doug Parker, Nancy Parker
Harford: Jean Fry, Larry Fry, John Nack
Howard: Mary-Jo Betts, Jane Coskren, Darius Ecker, Paula Ecker, Chuck Stirrat, Don Waugh, Martha Waugh
Jug Bay: Mike Callahan
Kent: Gail Regester, Pat Wilson
Montgomery: Sam Freiberg, Helen Gray, John Malcolm, Janet Millenson, Lydia Schindler
Patuxent: Chan Robbins
Talbot: Frank Lawlor, Liz Lawlor
Tri-County: not represented
Washington: Judith Lilga

Opening & Welcome: President Karen Morley called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. She thanked the Baltimore Chapter for hosting the MOS Board meeting at Marshy Point Nature Center. Karen commented on what a wonderful location to have our meeting and the wonderful food provided by the Baltimore Chapter. Bob Rineer, of the Baltimore Chapter, introduced Bob Stanhope, Chief Naturalist of Marshy Point Nature Center. Bob Stanhope explained much has been done here but they hope to add a wing with classrooms, add more trails and a boardwalk. Bob Rineer showed slides of some of his favorite birds found at Marshy Point.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Mike Bowen in an e-mail to Karen Morley suggested several changes. Under Minutes of Previous Meeting, he suggested changing the end of the last sentence to: Sally Ann Waldschmidt, Chairman of the Gifts Committee, noted that she had not heard a question from Norm Saunders during the September, 2000, Board Meeting regarding the review of the proposal submitted by Marshall Iliff and "had not responded to it as stated in the minutes and they should be changed to reflect this." He also suggested an addition at the end of the third paragraph about the Horsehead Center: Ed Delaney requested $5,000 for this year and $20,000 for 2001. And the second paragraph of the Gifts Committee report should show Sally Ann Waldschmidt handed out a draft proposal for requesting escrow funds rather than the procedure for requesting escrow funds. Fran Saunders noted that under Sales $90.12 was made and additional funds due to the sale of a scope. With no further discussion, the minutes of the December Board Meeting were accepted as amended.

Treasurer's Report: Shiras Guion noted the investment income is larger than previous years as it currently includes the Schenkel bequest. Under expenses there is a large payment under the web site. This is actually for 3 years in arrears as the web host neglected to bill us. This payment covers us through this fall.

Regarding an audit, Maryland state law for non-profit corporations stated that:

With under $100K in income, an internal audit is okay.

For $100K to $200K in income, a professional review is required

For income over $200K, a professional audit is required.

Because of the Schenkel bequest we are in the over $200K category and must have a professional audit. Next year we will probably be in the professional review category, which is about half the cost of an audit. Shiras has found a firm that does non-profit work and will do our audit. The proposal from them sets the upper limit of cost of the audit at $4,000 and $750 for our taxes. They will also work with us to review and recommend ways to set up and keep the MOS books. The accounting firm wants a deposit on the audit of $1,000. Next year's budget lists the audit as an expense but the deposit will need to be made this fiscal year. Shiras needed the Board's approval to make this deposit and made a motion requesting $1,000 for this purpose. This was seconded and approved. Shiras stated this amount would come out of this year's budget as a retainer.

Shiras Guion requests that chapters electing new treasurers and/or membership chairmen to please send their names and address to her or to Bill Guion in order to update the MOS database.

President's Remarks: Karen Morley made a statement regarding the problems that have arisen with local residents by over enthusiastic birders attempting to view the Snowy Owl wintering in Frederick County this year. The letter addressing this problem, which was published in the *Yellowthroat*, was sent to the three farmers involved. She, as President of MOS, feels we have an obligation to birders in general and the farmers to educate people regarding birding ethics. This needs to be done by the chapters as well as the MOS Board. Norm Saunders has helped by addressing the problem in the *Yellowthroat* and publishing the ABA Code of Birding Ethics. Karen had not heard from the farmers and wondered if Doug Parker, President of the Frederick Chapter, had. Doug said there have been no major problems lately. He has not heard from anyone and things seem to have calmed down. Doug will probably contact the farmers in the future. The biggest problem, Doug felt, was the disregard of private property. It was mentioned people were releasing rats to attract the owl. Norm Saunders said those people were photographers and they are the ones who seemed to cause the majority of the problems.

There have been rumors that the Wildfowl Trust (Horsehead) was going to transfer their property to Maryland Audubon. Karen had a long talk with Ed Delaney, Executive Director of the Wildfowl Trust. Because of their financial difficulties the Board at the Wildfowl Trust has been looking into partnerships with other groups. They approached Maryland Audubon, who is working on an initiative for the year 2020. Evidently Audubon is trying to target a number of sites around the country to become Audubon sites by 2020. Once the Wildfowl Trust found out that Audubon's method of operation was not a partnership but to completely take over the property, they backed off. The Trust considers themselves an MOS affiliated sanctuary and do not want to jeopardize that relationship.

Karen is requesting chapters to be more diligent getting members

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to renew their MOS membership in a timely manner and to report these renewals and membership data to the Treasurer and the Membership Database Chairman, Bill Guion. This should be done on a monthly basis. All new members should be submitted by August 1st so they will get the first *Yellowthroat* of the year. Mailing labels in the upper right-hand corner have the membership expiration date. Therefore, each member should know if they are up-to-date. Karen noted that as of February 1st people who have not paid their membership dues have been purged from the MOS roster. This is almost 6 months after the expiration date. An awful lot of *Yellowthroats* are sent out to people who haven't renewed. This is quite costly. If the data is received in a more timely fashion, then everyone gets all of the mailings they are due but publications are not sent out to those who haven't renewed their membership.

We still need volunteers to head the EFM and Education Committees. Carol Jelich, who resigned from the EFM Committee, wants to move on to other activities. She has found EFM a very rewarding and interesting job. Carol will be happy to take time to train her replacement. Maude Banks, the current Education Committee Chairwoman, has retired. This position is very important and needs to be filled as soon as possible. Also, the Budget Committee will need a new chair for next year. Paul Zucker is currently doing it for an extra year. Paul needs to be relieved next year. Anyone interested in any of these positions please contact Karen Morley.

The Executive Committee approved an education grant to the Caroline County Chapter for $240 for a park naturalist to buy binoculars for a summer program. One is also pending for the Cecil County Chapter while waiting for them to get back to the Executive Committee regarding the amount of money needed.

Paul Zucker, Shiras Guion, and Karen Morley met with Mark Hoffman, head of the Investment Committee, to try to decide where to put our money, especially now that we have the Schenkel bequest. Currently we have $1.3 million in assets not including real property, which totals $2 – 3 million. Most of our money is invested to endow specific funds; i.e. education, scholarship, research, and sanctuary. But there is a lot of our money just sitting in savings or money market funds that we are looking at investing if only on a short term basis. Mark Hoffman will be looking into this and making a recommendation to the Executive Board regarding this in the next couple of months.

At our June meeting we will look at pilot proposals for administrative processes and at Sally Ann Waldschmidt's gift procedures. Also in June we will look at the long-range planning results. Karen hopes most of the committees will have gotten them to Marcia Watson-Whitmyre by then. At that time we also need to consider if any changes are needed to the By-laws or Manual of Operations.

Review of Action Items from the December 9, 2000 Meeting:

1. E-mail contacts have been provided for all chapters.
2. The 2002 Conference will be held in Western Maryland at Wisp
3. The Publicity committee still needs more contacts and fax numbers for local newspapers for each chapter.
4. Larry Fry's name is now listed with DMV for authorizing MOS license plates and he has applications available.
5. We are continuing to try to find research papers for the 2001 Conference.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

World Series of Birding: Norm Saunders stated this is the fourth year MOS has participated. He needs pledges. There is a pledge form on page 11 of the March / April issue of the *Yellowthroat*. Please fill it out and send it to Norm. The team members this year are Hal Wierenga, Lynn Davidson, Mark Hoffman, and Marshall Iliff.

Budget Committee: Paul Zucker handed out the Proposed Budget for 2001 – 2002. Our fiscal year runs from May 1 through April 30. Under expenses we have nothing yet under *Maryland Birdlife*. Expenses for the MOS website are up but we are now using a different provider with more services. We were to have a Sanctuary Guide last year but this has not happened yet. Several similarly postponed items are discussed below.

Under Administrative and General – The audit and tax preparation will be $4,000 and $750. The awards amount is for an increase for plaques. EFM funded projects have not spent any money this year. MOS Sales has some one-time expenses for the current year that have not yet been spent; their coming year's budget is $1,000. The Nest Records Project is not operational yet and so their amount is carried over to the next budget year. Appraisal of the sanctuaries has not been done yet and the $5,000 will be carried over to the next budget year. The Publicity Committee is in the process of arranging to have cards printed that will be distributed by birders to businesses. The committee-related expenses have remained at pretty much the same level as before.

The final budget figure for operating expenses is $54,110. We usually spend under this amount but we have a lot of one-time expenses and expenses carried over from last year. We also have unattached money in operating funds projects. Karen Morley noted that in the future we are going to get advice from the auditors on how to correctly balance the MOS Books.

Under Special Accounts, the Atlas Fund is showing $25,000 as current year income. This is interest from the Schenkel Fund to pay the expenses listed in the budget. Jane Coskren, Chairman of the Atlas Committee, commented we don't have sufficient people to cover blocks in Garrett County. We will probably have to pay people on an as-needed basis for their gas and motel expenses in order to have this area covered. There aren't a lot of birders in that area.

The conference last year netted a $2,800 profit. Some people have a problem with the conference being used to raise money. Karen Morley explained it is not intended for the conference to raise money, but some do. This money is rolled over, back into the next conference. Paul Zucker noted there are special funds for the Education, Research, Sanctuary, and Scholarship Committees in addition to the already mentioned Atlas and Conference Committees. The budget shows what they have earned in the current year and what they have earned from the previous year. They can spend what they actually earned.

Paul Zucker moved that the Proposed Budget be approved. This was seconded and approved. Karen Morley stated our goal is to make all financial activities available in a way that makes them understandable to all MOS members.

Conference Committee: Mike Callahan reported the March / April issue of the *Yellowthroat* had an article about the August 10 – 12, 2001 conference. The conference brochure is almost ready to be mailed out. A picture the Piping Plover drawn by Ellen Lawyer, the Local Conference Coordinator, appears on the front of the brochure. The speakers will be Don and Lillian Stokes, who plan to spend the weekend at the conference. The Stokes will be going on field trips and have a book signing. The conference pin is a Brown Pelican. Mike thanked Fran Saunders for the wonderful web link. As of March 3, there has been a web page for the conference, which, among other things, shows pictures of the rooms and facilities at Salisbury State University we will be using. Mike is still looking for field trip leaders. Anyone willing to help with the field trips should contact Mike or Sam Dyke or Allen Deward. Sam and Allen may be reached at Allen's e-mail address, ratal5@earthlink.net. Janelle Dietrich, Coordinator for the silent auction and raffle, is looking for items to be used for both events. Janelle will be sending out letters to each MOS Chapter requesting help. Not only are items needed for the raffle and auction but Janelle also needs volunteers to help man the silent auction booth. Dale Johnson is handling the artist exhibit again this year. If you know of any local artists who might wish to participate, contact Dale. Also, Dale is

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particularly looking for artists working with stained glass or glass-blowing. Janet Shields is Registrar again this year. There will not be space for all of the room options in the brochure but contact Janet with questions.

Mike has signed the contract for the 2001 conference. He is now looking at contracts for 2002. The original date of the conference was to be May, 2002, in Western Maryland. This has been changed to early June partially at the request of the Atlas Committee. Training for the atlas work will be done at this conference. The conference dates are June 9 – 7, 2002, at Wisp in Western Maryland. Jane Coskren, Atlas Committee Chairman, noted that all data from the field trips can be used for the atlas. Karen Morley said we are going to start doing field trip reports again which will give us some additional atlas data. Mike Callahan said we have to have the deposit for Wisp one year in advance. He will talk with Paul Zucker about how the deposit should be handled for the budget. Mike also announced he is already working on the speaker for 2002 and has asked David Sibley. Mike is waiting to hear from him.

Back to the 2001 conference, Mike still needs a shorebird workshop leader for Friday afternoon. The Saturday all-day trip to Bombay Hook will include a shorebird workshop during the field trip. There are going to be some great non-birding trips, night field trips and possibly a trip to the Salisbury Zoo. If anyone knows of possible places for field trips on private land, please contact Mike.

The September 8th MOS Board Meeting will be hosted by the Conference Committee Mike announced. It will take place at the Horizon Organic Dairy, the former Naval Academy dairy farm in Ann Arundel County. This is located on 175 acres. Mike needs someone willing to lead a field trip on that day at Horizon. This field trip will be open to the public. We are able to use this facility because MOS has agreed to do a field trip with the public invited to participate.

Conservation Committee: Maureen Harvey reports that the biggest thing that happened was the Mute Swan issue. The official MOS response to DNR's request for comments on the Mute Swan Task Force Report, based on opinions expressed by chapters and individual members of the MOS, is that DNR should eliminate mute swans from Maryland by whatever means necessary. MOS President Karen Morley sent a letter to DNR stating this opinion. Karen said she got comments from various chapters. The Baltimore Chapter was the only one to formally vote a position. Their vote supported this stand. Also, the Executive Committee supported this stand. A draft of the letter was also send to all chapter presidents. The letter was then sent out before the March 1st deadline to DNR with a copy to Governor Glendening. There is currently a bill proposed before the Maryland Legislature to allow hunting of the Mute Swans as a control measure.

Maureen reports good news on CARA (Conservation And Reinvestment Act). CARA has been reintroduced in the 107th Congress. There is a report on a Horseshoe Crabs harvest proposal by Carol Jelich. Also, there is a report by Carol Schreter on West Nile Mosquito Spraying. Two other issues mentioned were Canada Goose control in Montgomery Co. and the GreenPrint Program. All of these reports are contained in Conservation Notes From All Over printed in the May/June issue of the *Yellowthroat*. Norm Saunders asked if there was any information on Sunday hunting. Maureen replied she has heard nothing.

Gifts Committee: Sally Ann Waldschmidt could not attend the meeting but sent her report to Paul Zucker to be presented at the board meeting. The Wildfowl Trust of North America submitted a Request for Funds in the amount of $20,000 for 2001. They also in December requested $5,000 for 2000. The $5,000 didn't happen because it needed to be reviewed by the Gifts Committee and there was not time to do so before the end of the year. As to the $20,000 request for 2001, the Gifts Committee voted not to recommend approval of this request by the Board. There were several reasons for this decision. The land at Horsehead Wetlands Center, some of which an MOS bequest helped buy, is not at risk. Since 1998 all 500 acres has been protected by a conservation easement through the Maryland Environmental Trust, for which the Wildfowl Trust received $394,000. Also, the request was not for a clearly defined project with which MOS could be associated but for general budgetary relief. This $20,000 represents a sizable percentage of our escrow funds at a time when we are evaluating the cost of managing our own sanctuary habitats and buildings. Another point was MOS is not a foundation here to provide general support to other organizations. When a person leaves assets to MOS, they want the funds used to strengthen our programs and further our goals. Even though the Gifts Committee did not recommend that the Board approve this request, two members would be in favor of a donation of $2,000 - $5,000. Two members would not. After discussion, Bob Rineer moved that the Board agree with the Gifts Committee's decision. This was seconded and passed. Some members were in favor of a smaller donation. Karen Morley noted this should come under new business.

It was mentioned that Marshall Iliff last year made a request to the Gift Committee and the Publication Committee. What happened to it? Karen Morley said the request by Marshall and also one made by Darius Ecker went to the Committees and have not come back.

Long-Range Planning: Karen Morley asks the committee chairmen to please get their plans in to Marcia.

Publication Committee: Norm Saunders reported it has become a burden for Helen and John Ford to mail out the *Yellowthroats* for MOS. Norm has checked with Tri-State Printing. They offered to do it for $100 per issue. MOS would submit a flat file database of addresses each time. Tri-State will print the *Yellowthroat*, address it to members, put bar codes on for mailing and send it out. Using bar codes makes it a little cheaper. Also this should save 2 to 3 days getting it out to the members. It was asked if Tri-State would sell the mailing list. Norm replied that this would not be done and the mailing list would be destroyed after each mailing. Bill Guion doesn't release the MOS database without approval from the Board. Norm would like to try this with the approval of the Board. Shiras Guion thought it was worth trying even though it will be a little more expensive. Norm said he tries to get the *Yellowthroat* out by the first of the month and doing the mailing this way should help. Norm Saunders proposed we try using Tri-State Printing to get the *Yellowthroat* out to the membership for one issue provided they destroy the membership database after use. This was seconded and passed.

Publicity Committee: Fran Saunders needs help with the April Migratory Bird Day at the Washington Zoo. We've been invited to have a display on April 28 and 29, Saturday and Sunday. The hours are from 11:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. We're not selling anything. Fran needs volunteers to help man the booth. It's also a great opportunity to see the new Pandas! Anyone interested, contact Fran. This needs to be coordinated with Larry Fry who has the display.

Fran has checked into the cost of printing cards for MOS birders to hand out to businesses. 5,000 cards cost $245.02. 10,000 cards cost $318.67. 15,000 cards cost $384.15. Clearly ordering 15,000 cards is more cost effective. Dotty Mumford's understanding is these would be handed out to restaurants or other businesses used by birders. On a birding weekend this could make quite a statement and make the community aware of our presence. Dotty feels we clearly need more rather than less. According to Fran, Cape May uses this type of card to great effect. Dotty Mumford moved that we get 15,000 blue and white cards printed up. This was seconded and passed.

Karen Morley said that we need to think about handout items for our Bird Day display at the zoo. Larry Fry reported that we need more MOS brochures but have plenty of checklists.

Karen Morley reported she and Paul Zucker sat in on the Maryland/District of Columbia Records Committee when they had their annual meeting. The Records Committee has three members who are

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leaving. Three new members were elected. One is Jonathan Alderfer who is a distinguished field guide artist and was a general consultant for the third edition of the *National Geographic Field Guide*. Paul O'Brien, who is a Montgomery County MOS member, is back on the committee. Paul has been a member of the committee before and has been doing a lot of outreach for them the last few years. And the third new member is our own Bob Ringler. Paul O'Brien was elected the new Chairman. Harvey Mudd is retiring having decided he wants to take some time off. Karen, as MOS President, approved Paul O'Brien as the new Chairman.

Sanctuary Committee: Dotty Mumford reported on sanctuary workdays. April 7th is the official Irish Grove workday but people are welcome to stay over Sunday and do finish-up projects and go birding. There is lunch and dinner provided for the workers and usually some good birds down there. The Carey Run workday is Saturday, April 28. Again, if you want to say overnight, that's fine. On the April 7th workday, Dotty needs people with chainsaws. Dotty would appreciate knowing how many people are coming so she has enough food. Please give her a call if you can come at (410) 849-8336 for the Irish Grove workday. Contact Charlotte Folk (301) 689-6587 if you plan to attend the Carey Run workday. DOT's committee is working on their long-term goals and hope to have them complete by June.

Mike Callahan asked if it is possible to have a sanctuary display at the 2001 Conference and also a field trip to Irish Grove during the conference. Dotty will try to work up a display for the Conference. DOT's response to a Conference Irish Grove field trip was it's a lovely place but very buggy during the summer. Going to the open areas is fine but when you get into the grassy areas or woods it can really be vicious. That's why the work days are in the early spring and late fall.

Sanctuary Project: Bob Rineer is working on the assets of the sanctuaries. If anyone is interested in helping, let him know. Dotty Mumford informed us that Bob is doing the surveys of the sanctuaries and putting all the information together we've gotten. Right now Bob is trying to arrange real estate appraisals of all the sanctuaries. This information is needed fairly soon for the auditors. Karen Morley suggested we make having the appraisals completed by April 30th an action item.

Scholarship Committee: Jean Fry reported that last year the number of applicants was down, but this year they are really up. There were 26 applicants this year. After the December Board Meeting Jean contacted the Audubon camps. She does the outreach efforts in August, September and October when she sends out all the information to the science supervisors, local chapter presidents and chapter representatives. Jean bases her outreach efforts on what was available the previous year because the Audubon camps don't publish their information until January. She contacted each of the Audubon camps to get the brochures and found out that a couple of the camps are going to be closed this year. It put her in a quandary for a few moments, but Jean was able to make some adjustments and things are going to work out fine. The Wyoming camp is closed this year only for repairs and plans to reopen next year. The Connecticut camp is closed down this year to tear down the conference center and build a new conference center. They also plan to be closed next year because they plan to build new dormitories. She was able to round up a camp in Minnesota that has a one-week ecology camp called "Environmental Education for Teachers". We have one winner attending there. There were more than three people who applied for the Wyoming camp. When notified by Jean that the camp was going to be closed, three of those people preferred to have their applications held over for next year. Jean will notify them in the fall and have them update their resumes and notify them of anything else they have to do.

Jean Fry gave us a little information about Scholarship finances; from our MOS investments from this past year we have $7,387. We do get a scholarship from Kent County that is called the Gibson-Mendinhall scholarship and gives us $880. That scholarship was not awarded last year. It is intended for an applicant from the Eastern Shore and we had many applicants from there this year, so we did have a winner there. The Orville Crowder scholarship which goes all the way back to the World Nature Society was administered by Don Messersmith for many years. That money was given over to the Audubon Naturalist Society and they administer it. It is still called the Orville Crowder scholarship and ANS sends us a check for the amount of the scholarship. The camps in Maine have gone up $30 this year so they are $880. We got $880 from ANS for the scholarship. Jean only asked for $850 from the World Series of Birding and that is how much she got from them. Jean wasn't aware the cost had gone up $30 until she saw the brochures in January. This makes a total of $9,997.07. Jean handed out a list of the winners whom she had just notified. Jean will be sending a letter with a list of the winners to chapter presidents and representatives.

The committee has been running into a quandary in recent years, which was particularly true this year with so many applicants. They have a toss up sometimes between a person who has excellent credentials, as opposed to someone who has excellent potential. It is very easy to decide on the top three or four. It is also very easy to decide on the bottom three or four. They had twelve to fifteen people in between. It is difficult to decide whether to give money to someone who has already been there and done that: a person with excellent credentials. Then they have many applicants who are in a position to pass their knowledge on to young people, which is what the committee is looking for. These candidates have maybe only worked one or two years in their position but from looking at their letter and resume they seem to have excellent potential. The committee has to balance this out. Jean thinks they have come up with a combination of people for this year who have excellent credentials plus people with excellent potential.

Jean Fry stated that in their long-range planning they are thinking about alternate choices to the Audubon camps. As far as she knows, they have never had a negative response to the Audubon camps. There are some MOS members who have questions about the direction the Audubon Society is taking. Basically the committee has been pleased with the product of the Audubon camps over the years. Jean has been trying to find the history of when the scholarship program started. Pat Wilson, who is on the Scholarship Committee, told Jean she was perhaps one of the first Helen Miller recipients and that was 1965. Joy Wheeler said there was a Baltimore member, Nancy Rowe, who she believes was the first recipient in 1959.

The list of winners is not in the order of their ranking. There are twelve winners. One has had to cancel already. Jean spoke with Michael O'Rourke yesterday. He has the opportunity this summer to go to Outward Bound and cannot get a week off to attend the Audubon camp.

The following is a list of the scholarships for this year:

1. Orville Crowder – administered by Audubon Naturalist Society.
2. Chandler Robbins Scholarship & Eleanor Robbins Scholarship – Chan and Eleanor donated the funds to support two scholarships this year
3. World Series of Birding – the money comes from that competition each year. This year Jean asked for $850. This was before she found out in January the amount had increased $30. The Scholarship Committee will take $30 out of their fund to make up the difference.
4. Dan & Helen Gibsons-Dorothy Mendinhall Scholarship – This scholarship is set up specifically for an Eastern Shore applicant. Kent County administers the trust and the money forwarded to MOS when a winner is decided.
5. Helen Miller Scholarship – The Scholarship Committee is in the process of trying to find out the amount of the original investment. Sally Ann Waldschmidt is doing some investi-

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gating to determine this. The committee awarded three scholarships from this fund.

6. Doris Oakley – Jean was finally able to zero in on how much the original investment was. Sally Ann Waldschmidt did that investigation for Jean. The amount was around $42,000. Therefore, they think they should be making three scholarships in her name.
7. Frances Covington–Etta Wedge Scholarship – This money was given to MOS two years ago by Frances Covington in memory of her friend Etta Wedge. This is the first year this scholarship is being awarded.

Norm Saunders asked if it would be suitable to publish the scholarship information in the *Yellowthroat* because a lot of members don't know the origin of these funds. Jean said it would require quite a bit of space but she'd be happy to do this. Norm is going to look at the information Jean sends him and decide if there is enough space to do this.

Jean Fry asked the Board for an additional $130. The runner up Freda McMillan from North Potomac, an excellent candidate, has asked to go to Maine Field Ornithology. By Michael O'Rourke canceling, $575 is available. The $130 is how much more it would cost to make up our 12th scholarship. This motion was seconded and passed.

Jean Fry requested that Fran Saunders put the names of winner on the website. Norm Saunders, of course, will publish them in the *Yellowthroat* and Chan Robbins will publish them in *Birdlife*. The list of scholarship winners was published in the May/June issue of the Yellowthroat. Also, all the winners will be invited to attend the banquet at the MOS Conference. Jean also mentioned the committee is going to consider some other options for next year's winners. With several of the Audubon camps closed, it worked out well that several winners wanted to go to the Maine Field Ornithology course this year. There are some other things they might consider. The Cornell correspondence course and the ABA field ornithology course at Cape May are two of the choices under consideration. Karen Morley thinks it is a wonderful idea to open the choices up to a lot more organizations and give people more flexibility.

Sales: Karen Morley announced that Don Culbertson from the Baltimore Chapter, after all the work he's done for the Sales Committee, has agreed to take over putting together the items that MOS is going to be selling. Don had some suggestions for items we should maintain in larger amounts in stock. The increase in stock is in part for the Convention but also for sale on our website. Don asked Larry Fry to let the Board know what is left in inventory. According to Larry we have about 35 of the baseball caps, some magnets, some key chains and some mugs available. Larry hasn't received many requests from the web or chapters but these items are available. The number of patches has gone down. Mike Callahan would like some items to give to the Conference people. Karen Morley said she and Mike discussed doing Conference t-shirts. If they decide to do the t-shirts, they will run them through the Sales Committee instead of the Conference Committee and not do as many as have been done in the past. Don Culbertson handed out a sheet with items he thought could be added to the inventory. There are quite a few new items: crew neck sweat shirts, fanny packs, small tote bags, a cap, a sports bag, ball point pens and an "Official Bird Count Copy" t-shirt. All have MOS logos. Don thinks the items would make excellent Christmas gifts for family and friends. These items are an excellent way to show our logo. Don said the primary reason we have these items is it makes users a walking billboard for MOS. Karen Morley stated that Don has quite a large budget from last year. This will enable Don to get started increasing our inventory with these new items. We will be making a profit on these items and hopefully be getting back some of the costs we have put out on these things. These items will also go up on the web for sale in addition to being at the Conference.

Website: Paul Zucker mentioned that the website was going to be expanded. Fran Saunders told us she is currently talking with two people about the expansion, one in Baltimore and one in Ann Arundel. Fran wants to make sure we get the services we need before any changes are made. We are definitely going to expand our capacity and look forward to having a database the Records Committee can use.

Atlas: Jane Coskren is the Chairman for the second Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Maryland and the District of Columbia Committee. The data collection for the first Atlas was from 1983 through 1987 and the data was released in 1996. That data is 13 years old and there have been lots of changes since then. How does this work? There is a State Board and a Planning and Advisory Steering Committee. The Board at the present time is made of Jane, Emily Joyce, who is their Treasurer, Jo Solem, Bob Ringler, Glenn Therres, Chan Robbins, Karen Morley, Kathy Klimkiewicz, and John Malcolm. They still need publicity chairman and desperately need a fundraising person. Janet Millenson asked Jane to be more specific about what is involved in these two positions. Jane explained the fundraising person seeks funds from foundations, companies, the State of Maryland, etc. Publicity helps to get people to cooperate and get news to them of what is going on in the State of Maryland and the District. Also, asking people to volunteer to help do the survey itself. What the publicity chairman and fundraising person need are funds and workers. At the present time they have firm county coordinators for the District of Columbia, Allegany Co., Ann Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll Co., Frederick, Garrett Co., Howard Co., Queen Ann Co., and Washington Co. It is important the coordinators maintain contact and with e-mail it will be so much easier this time. Then they have field workers whom will each get a packet. In the packet will be a new book called *The Maryland & DC Breeding Bird Project Handbook*. Inside they will find information on how you know your birds, knowing your block and safe dates and other things. Everybody will be trained.

How do we do this? Each person will be given a block that is defined by a topographic map. Jane explained she imposes a regular county map on her sections to make it easier for herself. Her point being anyone can do this; you don't have to be able to read a topographic map. Some of the blocks in Baltimore, Howard, Montgomery, Prince George's, are divided into quarter blocks. All of D.C. and Garrett and 2 blocks in Carroll are also divided into quarter blocks. These are the most rapidly growing areas of the state. They are, therefore, done in a much smaller grid. So, you can tell when in one of these areas where development has gone on how it has affected the bird life. In addition, because Garrett County has the birds no one else gets, that is also atlased in quarter grids. It doesn't matter what level you are on as a birder; you can help.

The start date is January 1, 2002. Jane was asked how much the whole project should cost. She replied they are working up a long-term budget but not there yet. Jane will have a projected budget by June but it should be somewhere between $50,000 - $100,000 x 6 to 7 years. $30,000 of that is a coordinator's salary. Data collection will take 5 years and they hope to get the publication done in 2 years. Norm Saunders asked if they are going to try and reproduce the atlas or take another form? How will that work? Jane responded that the atlas would not be the same as the previous atlas. It won't be as large a volume as the previous one. The historic data don't need to be redone. Also, there doesn't need to be as much information on each bird species. The Committee envisions something half the size of the present atlas.

Jane told us it looks like something very exciting is going to happen. It looks very positive that the Committee will have a pilot project with Patuxent Wildlife Research Center on our data. The data will go into computers immediately. At the end it will be readily available for anyone to use. This is the reason for this cooperation with the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center. It will be the Maryland Ornithological Society's project. It is not a joint project. Patuxent will

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March Board Meeting Minutes

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not have editorial control. The data will be under our direct control. Bob Rineer asked if individuals will be able to directly enter data electronically. Jane replied they are not sure exactly how it will go. The Committee definitely wants a firewall between them and Patuxent. If you have a computer, you will be putting your data directly into a screen. But the committee doesn't want to turnoff anyone who doesn't have a computer and for that reason they will also continue to use the old sheet. Karen Morley stated that we will be having a lot more updates from Jane in the future. Jane will be making a presentation at the conference and coming around to the individual chapters. Larry Fry said that with the last atlas as he recalled there was a lot of cooperation between DNR and MOS as far as money and funding and so forth. Are they going to do anything this time? Jane Coskren replied that there was not money support last time it was in kind support. DNR is certainly going to cooperate with us but this is our effort and our atlas. When the Board took a vote it was decided it would be a Maryland Ornithological Society only project. Anyone with any ideas for funding contact Jane at her e-mail address: coskren@erols.com. Karen Morley suggested that if you know of anyone who does fundraising or good grant writing to contact Jane with their name. Janet Millenson offered to head up the fund raising committee for the Atlas. Jane Coskren said John Malcolm is already on the committee and he did a lot of the fund raising last time and will be happy to work with Janet Millenson. Jane gratefully accepted Janet as chairman of the fund raising committee for the atlas.

Karen Morley next asked who is willing to make a committee presentation at the next meeting and John Malcolm volunteered to talk about the Awards Committee. One of the things you'll notice in our budget this year is that the Awards Committee was given quite a bit of money. John is coming up with plaques and parchments and all kinds of things that can be used not just by the MOS Board but also by the individual chapters.

OLD BUSINESS

Date of Fall Count – Saturday or Sunday? Bob Ringler, Chairman of the Seasonal Counts Committee, stated that the Fall Count would continue to be on Saturday. The next Fall Count is September 15, 2001.

NEW BUSINESS

Request from Washington Post Style Reporter: Norm Saunders got a request from the Washington Post Style reporter. This man wants to hear from people involved in grassroots efforts to improve the environment for birds. It can range from planting a bush, trying to attract a particular species, on up to the rehabilitation of wetlands. He is eager to hear from such people who also engage in online bird activities such as The Great Backyard Bird Count or bird topic chat rooms. If anyone would like to get in touch with him at the Washington Post, his name is Joel Garreau, phone number is (202) 334-6269 or his use his e-mail at garreauj@washingtonpost.com

Proposal for Horsehead: Jane Coskren recommended that the Gifts Committee take another look at the proposal for Horsehead at the smaller dollar amount in light of the new information we have. Norm Saunders stated that we've had a long-term relationship with this organization. Norm thinks this continually looking at the proposal gets old; why can't this Board make a decision? We've already had it said that half of the Gifts Committee was in favor of a smaller amount. Norm made a motion to give Horsehead a grant of $5,000 to use as they see fit to maintain their operations. Norm feels that then we can tell them we would like to hear more from them as their financial situation changes in the future. This would be a one-time gift. This was seconded. Karen Morley stated that we have a motion for a $5,000 grant unrestricted to be used for what they need to do with it. The motion was seconded. Karen asked if there was any other discussion? Bob Rineer thought we were setting a precedent here giving money to an organization without knowing what they are using it for. Bob has a hard time with that. Karen was under the impression Horsehead had told us what it was for. Paul Zucker commented they had a whole budget that goes from staff to fundraising to capitol improvements, etc. Karen Morley stated that therefore it's not for one specific item but for general operating expenses. Paul Zucker suggested if they are in a pinch to raise funds for say an education center, we could give them funds for that. Jane Coskren was under the impression from the Horsehead presentation that they were asking for money to maintain a level of funding until they could get grants. Basically money to run the organization. Under the circumstances this is a one-time thing. Paul Zucker commented that if we give the money for a specific purpose to do something that they are already doing, then that frees up other money that they can use for whatever they want. But this way our money will still be identified as having a specific purpose. Some of the members felt Horsehead could best make the decision where to use any money given to them. It was mentioned that 6 or 8 years ago MOS took $120,000 from the Wanuga Bequest for a down payment on land along the access road for Horsehead. So MOS has a long-term significant relationship with Horsehead. Dotty Mumford felt that if Horsehead is going to be an affiliated sanctuary then we should in some way support them. They have troubles and Dotty sees nothing wrong with making a one-time $5,000 donation. Larry Fry stated that one of the things the Board learned from the requests of Marshall and Darius is that it can't discuss money and then vote on approving it at the same meeting. However, Larry feels this is basically a continuation of the Horsehead presentation of the last meeting. Karen Morley said that this was true. It was presented to us in December but the Gifts Committee really didn't look at this $5,000 but the Board certainly can vote on it as they would like. Karen stated since there was no further discussion, we have a motion and a second. The ayes ruled and the motion was passed.

Making A Yearly Donation to Horsehead: Jane Coskren commented on Dotty Mumford's concern about not being able to designate an amount from the Sanctuary Committee budget each year for Horsehead. She understood why the Gifts Committee rejected the $20,000 request. But Jane wanted to know if there is anything wrong with Dotty submitting a request for a reasonable amount of money (Dottie wanted $500) and put it into the Sanctuary budget as a continuing line item every year? It was pointed out it doesn't have to be in the Sanctuary budget. It could be the Education Committee because they have an educational goal. We could explore all kinds of ways of working more closely with Horsehead. Karen thinks this is a wonderful idea. It will be put down as something to look more seriously at in the future and decide which committee should handle this. Karen thinks we have a responsibility to Horsehead. MOS has put a lot of money into this and has a good working relationship with those people. They have a lot of wonderful ideas and plans, which have been curtailed because of this change in corporate sponsorship. From looking at their financial state they seem to be taking responsible actions to come to terms with their fiscal condition.

NEW ACTION ITEMS

1. Bob Rineer will have real estate appraisals of the sanctuaries by April 30.

President Karen Morley declared the meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Shields, Secretary

MOS CALENDAR — September-November, 2001

Saturday, September 1

FIELD TRIP. Cecil. Turkey Point Warblers & Hawk Watch Kick Off for 2001. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Turkey Point Parking Lot. For further information, contact the leader, Sean McCandless, at 410-392-3407.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Tucker Lane, Ashton, MD. "Overgrown trails, poison ivy, slippery rocks and a creek crossing...sound intriguing?" But also excellent chance for early fall migrants. Looking for 7-8 intrepid birders for a morning of woodland birding along Patuxent River watershed. Meet at 7:15 a.m. at Ashton Village Center (near 7-11) at intersection of Rts. 108 & 650. For further information and reservations, contact the leader, Rick Sussman, at 301-774-1185.

Sunday, September 2

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Butterflies through Binoculars. Easy walking in search of butterflies. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Centennial Park west end lot. Bring binoculars. For further information, contact the leader, Dick Smith at 410-997-7439. Cancelled if overcast or raining.

Wednesday, September 5

MEETING. Carroll. "Three Centuries of Birds - Artists & Writers Before Audubon" by Janet Millenson. 7:30 p.m. at Carroll Community College, Westminster, MD. For more information, call Laura Tarbell at 410-857-1109.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Almost Autumn Afternoon Avian Adventure. Meet at 3:00 p.m. at the Potomac River end of Sycamore Landing Road. Bird here and at Hughes Hollow until dusk. All are welcome. No reservations necessary . For more information or directions, call the leader, Jim Green, at 301-208-2393.

Thursday, September 6

MEETING. Montgomery. "The Brown Pelican in Maryland" by David Brinker, Maryland Department of Natural Resources. 7:30 p.m. at the Potomac Presbyterian Church, 10301 River Road, Potomac, MD.

MEETING. Frederick. Stauffer Miller will give us a slide presentation on Birding in Mexico. Meet in the Frederick High School Music Room at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, September 7

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Font Hill weekday walk. Easy walking on paved paths and mown grass looking for early fall migrants. Wetland patches and ponds offer hopes for unexpected goodies. Meet at sign on Font Hill Drive at 8:00 a.m. Call Bonnie for information at 410-461-3361.

Saturday, September 8

ANNUAL FALL POTLUCK PICNIC. Anne Arundel. 4:00 p.m. at the home of George and Sandra Thomas. Bring your favorite dish to share with everyone. Call 410-647-5082 for more information.

FIELD TRIP. Cecil. The Seasons at Fair Hill - w/ DOS. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Fair Hill Nature Center Covered Bridge Parking Lot. For further information, contact the leader, Scott Powers, at 410-658-2368.

FIELD TRIP. Frederick. Gary Smyle will lead us on a quest for residents and fall migrants at Gathland and Washington Monument State Parks. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Culler Lake Boathouse in Baker Park. For information contact Gary at 301-663-6055.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Hart-Miller Island. Shorebirds will be the primary species with possibilities of Black-bellied, American Golden and Semipalmated Plovers; Killdeer, Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs; Ruddy Turnstone; Red Knot; Sanderling; Spotted, Semipalmated, Western, Least, White-rumped, Baird's, Pectoral, Stilt, and Buff-breasted Sandpipers; and Short-billed Dowitcher. Boat leaves promptly at 7:00 a.m., returns at 5:00 p.m. Bring a back pack, food, drinks, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, binoculars and a spotting scope. Seven miles of slow walking in the sun. Only one restroom, reached about midday. Limited to 15 people. Call Sam Freiberg for reservations and directions at 301-652-7543. The leader is Gene Scarpulla.

FIELD TRIP. Washington. Lily Pons. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Rt. 66 Park & Ride. For further information, contact Judy Lilga, at 301-432-2276.

Sunday, September 9

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Harford Glen. Join leader Dave Larkin on a search for fall warblers and vireos. This is prime time for the adult warbler migration, and Harford Glen always has good numbers. Meeting time is 7:00 a.m. at the mansion house. Harford Glen is located at the end of Wheel Road, east of Route 24. Contact Dave Larkin at 410-569-8319 for further information.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Beginner's Bird walk. Easy walking around the lake to learn beginning bird identification. Learn how to use binoculars and field guides. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Centennial Park west end lot. For further information, contact the leader, Mike Kerwin, at 410-461-2408.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Sparrow Specifics Workshop. Black Hill Regional Park Visitor Center from 2:00 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. A slide-based workshop on the identification of locally occurring sparrows, both common and not-so-common, in breeding and winter plumage. Audience participation will be encouraged. For reservations, contact Frank Witebsky at 301-871-7990.

Wednesday, September 12

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Rock Creek Park. Migrant warblers, vireos and sparrows. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at Picnic Area #18 (1/2 mile below Nature Center on Ridge Road.) For further information and directions, contact the leader, Rob Hilton, at 301-587-6136.

Thursday, September 13

MEETING. Howard. "Maryland Coast to Crest: A Look at our State's Biodiversity," by Dr. Charles Stine. Programs are held at Longfellow Elementary School, 5470 Hesperus Drive, Columbia. Hospitality session and club bookstore at 7:30 p.m. Meeting/ Program begins at 8:00 p.m. For further information contact Don Waugh at 410-381-8841.

Saturday, September 15

FIELD TRIP. Cecil. Turkey Point Migrants & Hawk Watch. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Turkey Point Parking Lot. For further information, contact the leader, Richard Donham, at 610-932-0634.

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MOS Calendar, Sep/Nov

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FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Meadowside Nature Center and Area. "Challenging" fall warblers and migrant landbirds. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the nature center. For further information and directions, contact the leader, Rick Sussman, at 301-774-1185.

Sunday, September 16

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Soldiers Delight Natural Environmental Area, Baltimore County. Search for butterflies and fall birds in serpentine barrens also known for rare wildflowers. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Parole Park & Ride to drive to the site to meet the leader Bob Ringler (410-549-6031).

Monday, September 17

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Weekday walk at Gwynn Acres. Easy walking on paved path through woodlands in search of fall migrants. Meet at Old Columbia and Ram's Horn Road at 8:00 a.m. Call Bonnie for information at 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Washington. Washington Monument State Park for the hawk migration. Meet at the upper parking lot at Monument Park at 9:30 a.m. Call the leader, Dave Weesner, at 301-432-7718 for more information.

Thursday, September 20

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Mariner Point Park. Join Tom Congersky for a leisurely beginner walk through the county park. Target species are migrating fall warblers and late shorebirds. Meeting time is 7:30 a.m. at the last parking area. Contact Tom Congersky at 410-676-6489 for further information.

Saturday, September 22

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Patuxent River Park. This trip to the site of Sora rail research conducted by park naturalist Greg Kearns is limited to one boat load. Greg will take us into the marsh by pontoon boat to demonstrate how he traps, bands and then rigs these birds with telemetric devices to track their migration. Make your reservations with Paul Speyser (410-266-5669) no later than Monday, September 16. We will leave the Parole Park & Ride by 6:15 a.m. to arrive at the site by 7:00 a.m.

FIELD TRIP. Cecil. Turkey Point Migrants & Hawk Watch. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Turkey Point Parking Lot. For further information, contact the leader, Leslie Fisher, at 410-658-2428.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Henryton Hike. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Henryton Road to hike along the river in search of thrushes and other migrants. For further information, contact the leader, Ralph Cullison, at 410-442-2181.

Sunday, September 23

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Cromwell Valley Park. This site, northeast of Baltimore, is a hillside park with woods, fields and stream and has been good for hawk watching. Meet Sue Ricciardi (410-647-9513) by 8:00 a.m. at the Parole Park & Ride. We will meet co-leader Jim Meyers to search for the hawks and other fall birds.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Turkey Point Hawk. Watch Join Cecil County hawk watchers to look for migrating hawks and eagles. Turkey Point is also a great place for Cedar Waxwings, Red-headed Woodpeckers, and migrating warblers. Meeting place will be the MD Route 155 / I-95 Park & Ride at 7:30 a.m. For further information, contact the trip coordinator, Les Eastman, at 410-734-6969.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Moderate to difficult walking through woods and fields in search of migrants. Varied habitat of fields and woodlands should produce good warblers and vireos. Paths may be muddy. Meet at Board of Education building on Rt. 108 at 7:30 a.m. The leader is Stan Arnold. Call Bonnie for information at 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Presidents' Day Walk At Seneca. Participation of all former Chapter Presidents is encouraged and everyone is welcome! Bring lunch for a post-walk picnic. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at parking lot at end of Riley's Lock Road off River Road. Honorary Leaders: Current and former Presidents participating. For further information, contact Mike Bowen, at 301-530-5764.

Tuesday, September 25

MEETING. Washington. Potluck Dinner at 6:30 p.m. The monthly meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. Mark Raabe's subject is "The Bluebird Trail at Antietam Battlefield." The meeting is held at the Mt. Aetna Camp & Retreat Center. Call Judy Lilga at 301-432-2276 for directions.

Wednesday, September 26

Meeting. Cecil. "Goshawks" by Dave Brinker from MD DNR. 7:00 p.m. at the Fair Hill Nature Center. For further information, contact Leslie Fisher at 410-658-2428.

Saturday, September 29

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Patuxent Naval Air Station. Trip leader Leo Weigant (410-647-925 1) and the Navy's base naturalist Doug Lister will be looking for shore birds, waterfowl and meadow denizens in varied habitats. Leo reports the chance of spotting Upland and Buff-breasted Sandpipers. Call Leo, before Sunday, September 23 to reserve your spot. You will be asked to provide your social security number for security purposes.

FIELD TRIP. Cecil. Cape May, NJ - Fall Migration. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Big Elk Mall Dunkin Doughnuts Parking Lot Area. For further information, contact the leader, Parke John, at 410-287-6037.

FIELD TRIP. Frederick. Doug and Nancy Parker will lead a trip to discover the secrets of our own Frederick County Seymour B. Cooper Sanctuary. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Culler Lake Boathouse in Baker Park. Call Doug or Nancy at 301-663-1909 for information.

ANNUAL PICNIC. Harford. All-you-can-eat roast beef, crab soup and much more. 2:00 p.m. at Capa Field at the Edgewood area of APG. Make reservation by September 21 by calling Tom Congersky at 410-676-6489.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Mount Pleasant. Moderately difficult walking through field areas in search of Lincoln's and other sparrows. Great for flyovers. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the shed. For further information, contact the leader, Kurt Schwarz, at 410-461-1643.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Potomac River Bird Paddle. Riverine species and some migrants. The Sycamore Island Club will provide canoes for our explorations around the Glen Echo area. A waiver of liability will be required for each participant. Limited to 18 people. For reservations and information, contact the leader, David Winer, at 301-229-8963.

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MOS Calendar, Sep/Nov

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Sunday, September 30

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Susquehanna State Park. A reliable location along the Susquehanna River for a well-rounded collection of bird life, including woodpeckers, hawks, thrushes, and fall warblers. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at Rock Run Mill (Stafford and Rock Run Roads) for this morning trip. Moderately hilly hiking may be expected. Leader is Dave Powell, who can be reached at 410-452-5806.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Schooley Mill park. Moderate to difficult walking, paths may be muddy. Wide variety of migrants and flyovers possible. Meet at upper lot at 7:30 a.m. Call Bonnie for information at 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Bombay Hook NWR. Waterfowl and passerines-which might include Least Bittern, Redhead, King Rail, Common Moorhen, Golden Plover, Black-necked Stilt, Hudsonian Godwit, Red Knot, Long-billed Dowitcher, Yellow-throated Vireo, Willow Flycatcher and White-crowned Sparrow. Meet at 8:00 a.m. (early birders will meet at 6:00 a.m. for 2-hr preview) at Main Visitor Center. Group limited to 15 people. For reservations and directions, contact the leaders, Jay and Diane Jones, at 301-670-0516.

Wednesday, October 3

MEETING. Carroll. TBA. 7:30 p.m. at Carroll Community College, Westminster, MD. For more information, call Laura Tarbell at 410-857-1109.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Turkey Point Hawk Watch #2. Join Cecil County hawk watchers to look for migrating hawks and eagles. Turkey Point is also a great place for Cedar Waxwings, Red-headed Woodpeckers, and migrating warblers. Meeting place will be the MD Route 155 / I-95 Park & Ride at 7:30 a.m. Trip coordinator is Phil Powers, who can be reached at 410-679-4116.

Thursday, October 4

MEETING. Frederick. Alice Nemitsas will tell us about her work at the Fountain Rock Nature Center and her scholarship trip to Hog Island to the Maine Ornithological Camp. Meet in the Frederick High School Music Room at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, October 5

MEETING. Anne Arundel. "Sparrows" by Dr. William Oberman. 8:00 p.m. at the DNR Conference Room, Tawes Building, corner of Taylor Avenue and Rowe Boulevard, Annapolis.

Saturday, October 6

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Kinder Farm Park. Meet co-leader George Thomas (410-647-5082) at the Jones Station Park & Ride. He will lead us to this park, where Linda Baker spotted the locally famous Clay-Colored Sparrow earlier this year. Park Ranger Dave Famer will act as our guide on site.

FIELD TRIP. Frederick. Lily Pons with Mike Welch. Meet at Lily Pons at 7:30 a.m.. Good for beginners. American Bittern, late shorebirds, need we say more? Call Mike for information at 301-874-5828.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Bon Secours. Explore the beautiful grounds of this spiritual retreat. Moderate walking along wood edges and fields. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the visitor parking lot off Marriottsville Road. Call Bonnie for information at 410-461-3361.

Sunday, October 7

FIELD TRIP. Cecil. Turkey Point Migrants & Hawk Watch. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Turkey Point Parking Lot. For further information, contact the leader, Sean McCandless, at 410-392-3407.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Cromwell Valley Park. Join leader Phil Powers on a half day trip to this fantastic Baltimore County Park. Target species include Solitary Vireo, Fox Sparrow and migrating hawks. Meeting time is 7:00 a.m., at the Park & Ride on MD Route 152 near MD Route 147. For further information contact Phil Powers at 410-679-4116.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Beginner's Bird Walk at Lake Elkhorn. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Cradlerock lot to walk around the lake and check Fore Bay pond. Learn the basics of bird ID, choosing a field guide and using binoculars. Call Bonnie for information at 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Layhill Park. Migrant sparrows, warblers and other woodland and edge birds. Waterproof boots and long pants essential. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at first available parking space on left after pulling into park. Limited to 8 people. For further information and reservations, contact the leader, Rick Sussman, at 301-774-1185.

Monday, October 8

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Susquehanna State Park. Join Rick Blom and Les Eastman on a walk through Susquehanna State Park. Target species will be hard-to-find sparrow species and late migrants. Meeting time is 7:00 a.m. at the Deer Creek trestle parking lot. Contact trip coordinator Les Eastman at 410-734-6969 if you have any questions.

Tuesday, October 9

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Weekday walk at David Force. Woods, fields, pond and stream should provide a variety of species. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the sign on Pebble Beach drive. Paths may be muddy. Call Bonnie for information at 410-461-3361.

Thursday, October 11

MEETING. Howard. "The Joy of Atlasing," by Chandler S. Robbins. Programs are held at Longfellow Elementary School, 5470 Hesperus Drive, Columbia. Hospitality session and club bookstore at 7:30 p.m. Meeting/Program begins at 8:00 p.m. For further information contact Don Waugh at 410-381-8841.

MEETING. Montgomery. "Birding in Santa Marta, Colombia" by George Jett, Charles County, MD, and Jerry Touval, The Nature Conservancy. 7:30 p.m. at the Potomac Presbyterian Church, 10301 River Road, Potomac, MD.

Friday-Sunday, October 12-14

FIELD TRIP. Anne Arundel. Kiptopeke, Fisherman's Island NWR, Virginia. Peter Hanan (410-721-2658) will lead this 3-day jaunt to the area around the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel. He urges biking birders to bring their cycles, but non-cyclists are welcome, too, to hunt for shorebirds, hawks and whatever other finds the ever-vigilant Peter is able to serve up. Please call him by Sunday October 7th to make arrangements for the trip, including accommodations.

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MOS Calendar, Sep/Nov

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Saturday-Sunday, October 13-14

FIELD TRIP. Carroll. Join us for part of or for the whole weekend in Cape May, NJ. An ideal place for the hawk migration. RSVP deadline 9/7/01 in order to make accommodation arrangements. For more information & to RSVP, call Laura Tarbell at 410-857-1109.

FIELD TRIP. Frederick. An overnight trip to Cape May to watch hawks and other migrants at one of the great hot spots in the country. For information contact Dave Smith at 410-549-7082.

Saturday, October 13

FIELD TRIP. Cecil. Sparrows. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Big Elk Mall Dunkin Doughnuts Parking Lot Area. For further information, contact the leader, Brian Moyer, at 410-306-0967 (W) or 410-378-5307 (H).

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Sparrows at the University of Maryland Central Farm. Limited to first 12 participants. Very early start , strenuous trip-details will be given to the dozen brave souls who desire to spend ½ day looking at LBJ's. Wetlands and upper dry field habitats will be covered. High boots required. Call Bonnie for information and to reserve spot at 410-461-3361.

FIELD TRIP. Washington. We're going to Town Hill looking for Golden Eagles with a side trip to Little Orleans. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Rt. 65 Park & Ride next to Dept. of Motor Vehicles. Ann Mitchell, 301-432-2021, is the trip leader.

Sunday, October 14

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Hawk Watch at Mount Pleasant. Starts at 9:30 a.m. Stay an hour or two or stay all day. Bring chair, lunch and drinks to sit and watch the hawks fly. For further information, contact the leader, Mike Kerwin, at 410-461-2408.

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Little Bennett Park. Everyone welcome, particularly beginning birders, to enjoy this area of varied habitats and birdlife. Late migrant warblers and vireos, early sparrows, some raptors possible. For reservations and time and place to meet, contact the leader, Gemma Radko, at 301-607-4374.

Saturday, October 20

FIELD TRIP. Cecil. All Chapters MOS Turkey Point Hawk Watch. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Turkey Point Parking Lot. For further information, contact the leader, Leslie Fisher, at 410-658-2428.

FIELD TRIP. Frederick. Audrey Carroll for our annual Hawk Watch and other birding. The rainier it is, the better the birds are. Watch for a Merlin, Bald Eagle, or rare sparrows. Meet at the Park & Ride, Rte. 75 just south of I-70 at 7:45 a.m. Call David Smith at 410-549-7082 for information.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Waggoner's Gap Hawk Watch. Late October is a great time of year to see Red-tailed Hawks, Merlin, and Golden Eagles migrate though central Pennsylvania. Join hawkwatcher Randy Robertson as he points these and other great migrating raptors out from the outlook at Waggoner's Gap. Meeting time is 6:30 a.m. at the Rock Spring Park & Ride on MD Route 24 (Next to ramp to MD Route 1). For further information, contact Randy Robertson at 410-273-9029.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Western Regional Park. Spend several hours exploring an old farm which will become a major county park. Fields should provide sparrows. Great view of the sky for flyovers. Two small woodlots and a bit of scrub. Wear long pants. There are ticks! Trails are not always well-defined and expect to walk through tall grass. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Rt. 97 south of 1-70. The leaders are Jo Solem and Bonnie Ott. Call Bonnie for information at 410-461-3361.

Sunday, October 21

FIELD TRIP. Howard. The BIG SIT at Centennial Park. The leader is Kurt Schwarz. Meet at the south side of the wildlife end. Join us for as little or as long as you like. We will spend the day in our 17 foot circle and count as many species as possible. Bring a chair and sustenance. Call Bonnie for information at 410-461-3361.

Tuesday, October 23

MEETING. Washington. Gail MacKiernan will be speaking on "Israel: The Billion Bird Flight." The meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. at the Mt. Aetna Camp & Retreat Center. Call Judy Lilga at 301-432-2276 for directions.

Wednesday, October 24

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Weekday Walk at Alpha Ridge. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Alpha Ridge Park. Possible side trip to Henryton Road. Possibility of walking through high grasses. Call Bonnie for information at 410-461-3361.

Saturday-Sunday, October 27-28

Irish Grove Workday. Irish Grove Sanctuary, Somerset County MD. The MOS Sanctuary Committee hosts this fall workday-weekend each year to afford members the chance to visit and help maintain this 1600 acre sanctuary. It's an ideal opportunity to see this lovely sanctuary with its woods and marshes. Members contribute time to improvement projects at the site and participate in some birding. Saturday lunch and evening meal are provided. It's always a good time. Call Dotty Mumford (410-849-8336) to sign on for the weekend by Tuesday, October 24.

Saturday, October 27

FIELD TRIP. Cecil. Turkey Point. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Turkey Point Parking Lot. For further information, contact the leader, Leslie Fisher, at 410-658-2428.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Owl Prowl. Join Harold Boling and Debbie Bowers for an early evening search for owls near Rocks State Park. Possible species include Great Horned Owl, Barred Owl, Eastern Screech-Owl and Northern Saw-whet Owls. Meet at 4:30 p.m. at the Forest Hill Klein's, intersection of MD Routes 23 & 24. Contact Debbie Bowers at 410-692-9741 for further information.

Tuesday, October 30

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Waggoner's Gap, PA.. 100+ miles from Washington Beltway but worth the trip. Excellent location for migrant raptors at peak time for Goshawks and Golden Eagles. Scopes are helpful, dress warmly and bring a cushion and food (the rocks are cold and hard and once you climb the rock pile it can be an annoyance to have to go back to cars). Trip could be a day earlier or a day later depending on weather conditions. For further information and reservations, contact the leader, Mike Bowen, at 301-530-5764.

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MOS Calendar, Sep/Nov

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Thursday, November 1

MEETING. Frederick. Jean Tuft from the National Wildlife Federation will give a presentation on "Creating Backyard Wildlife Habitats." Meet in the Frederick High School Music Room at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, November 2

FIELD TRIP. Cecil. Turkey Point Owls. Meet at 7:00 pm at the Turkey Point Parking Lot. For further information, contact the leader, Scott Powers, at 410-658-2369.

MEETING. Harford. Program TBA. Meet at 6:15 p.m. at Churchville Presbyterian Church, MD 22 & MD 136. For further information, call 410-879-0642.

Saturday, November 3

FIELD TRIP. Carroll. An early afternoon walk around Piney Run Park searching for sparrows & waterfowl. Trip leader says he's making no guarantees. Meet 12:30 p.m. at the park's gate on Martz Rd, Sykesville. For more information, call trip leader Mark Hoffman at 410-549-3598.

FIELD TRIP. Frederick. Blackwater Wildlife Refuge for Snow Geese, (and maybe Ross' Goose), Bald Eagles, Brown-headed Nuthatch, other waterfowl and late migrants. Bring your lunch and meet at Urbana Park & Ride South Lot at 6:00 a.m.. Call Helen Horrocks at 301-831-6315 to confirm.

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Perryman. Join trip leader Dave Powell in a walk along Perryman area roads looking for migrating sparrows. Fox, Tree and White-Crowned Sparrows are among the target species. Meet at the Aberdeen Wal-Mart parking lot at 7:30 a.m. Call 410-452-5806 for more details.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Kinder Farm Park. This varied habitat should yield an assortment of birds. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at Rt. 32 and Broken Land Parkway to carpool to AA county. The leader is David Farner. Call Bonnie for information at 410-461-3361.

Sunday, November 4

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Centennial Park. Walk around the lake for a wide variety of land and water birds. Migrant raptors still moving. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the west end lot on Centennial Lane. The leader is John Maloney. Call Bonnie for information at 410-461-3361.

Wednesday, November 7

MEETING. Carroll. "England, Scotland & Wales" by Larry & Jean Fry. 7:30 p.m. at Carroll Community College, Westminster, MD. For more information, call Laura Tarbell at 410-857-1109.

Thursday, November 8

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Lake Elkhorn. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Broken Land Parkway lot to walk around the lake on paved path to view waterfowl and woodland birds. For further information, call Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

MEETING. Montgomery. "River of Raptors: Veracruz, Mexico" by Don Simonson, Montgomery County Chapter, MOS. 7:30 p.m. at the Potomac Presbyterian Church, 10301 River Road, Potomac, MD.

Friday, November 9

FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Saw-whet Owl Banding Station. Visit the banding station at South Mountain, MD to see Saw-whet Owl banding by Steve Huy. Meet at 9:00 p.m. at Rt. 80 Park & Ride (off Rt. 270). Limited to 15 people. Rain date is November 10. For reservations and more information. Contact the leader, Gemma Radko, at 301-607-4374.

Saturday, November 10

FIELD TRIP. Frederick. Audrey Carroll Cleanup. Help with chores and squeeze in some birding too. Bring heavy gloves and binoculars and meet at the sanctuary at 7:30 AM. Contact David Smith at 410-549-7082 for information.

Sunday, November 11

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Harford Waterfowl Trip. Marvel at the thousands of Lesser Scaup on the Gunpowder River, and search among them for the occasional Redhead, Long-tailed Duck (A.K.A. Oldsquaw) and scoters. Then visit Havre de Grace for a wide variety of waterfowl including American Wigeon, Northern Shoveler and Tundra Swan. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the MD Route 24 gate to the Edgewood Area of the Aberdeen Proving Ground. Scopes are helpful, although not necessary. For further information, contact the leader, Dave Webb, at 410-939-3537.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Centennial Park. Walk around the lake for a wide variety of water and woodland birds. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the west end lot. The leader is Darius Ecker. For further information, call Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

Saturday, November 17

FIELD TRIP. Carroll. A morning walk looking for sparrows at Hashawa. Moderate terrain. Meet 8:00 a.m. at the Bear Branch Nature Center, John Owings Rd, Westminster. For more information, call trip leader Laura Tarbell at 410-857-1109.

FIELD TRIP. Cecil. Avalon Seawatch.(w/ possible side trip to Cape May Hawk Watch) Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Cecil Community Collage Parking Lot. For further information, contact the leaders, Leslie Fisher, at 410-658-2427 or Marcia Whitmyre, at 410-398-0125.

Sunday, November 18

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Eastern Neck NWR. Leaders Jean and Larry Fry will guide you through this all-day trek to this wildlife refuge in Kent County. Eastern Neck provides fantastic opportunities to see waterfowl, with Horned Grebe, Tundra Swans, and Canvasback all likely to be encountered. Be sure to dress warmly and scopes could be useful. Jean and Larry can be contacted at 410-452-8539 and plan to leave from the I-95 exit 89 Park & Ride (on MD Route 155) at 7:00 a.m.. Bring lunch: all day trip with easy walking.

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Centennial Park. Walk the paved path around the lake to look for migrating waterfowl. Very small possibility of Oldsquaw. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the west end lot. The leader is Mike Kerwin. For further information, call Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

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MOS Calendar, Sep/Nov

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FIELD TRIP. Montgomery. Lilypons - New Design Road. Wintering field birds, targeting Fox and Tree Sparrows and possible Loggerhead Shrike. Will include stop at Black Hill Reservoir, if conditions look good for waterbirds. For reservations and further information, contact the leader, Gail MacKiernan, at 301-989-1828.

Monday, November 19

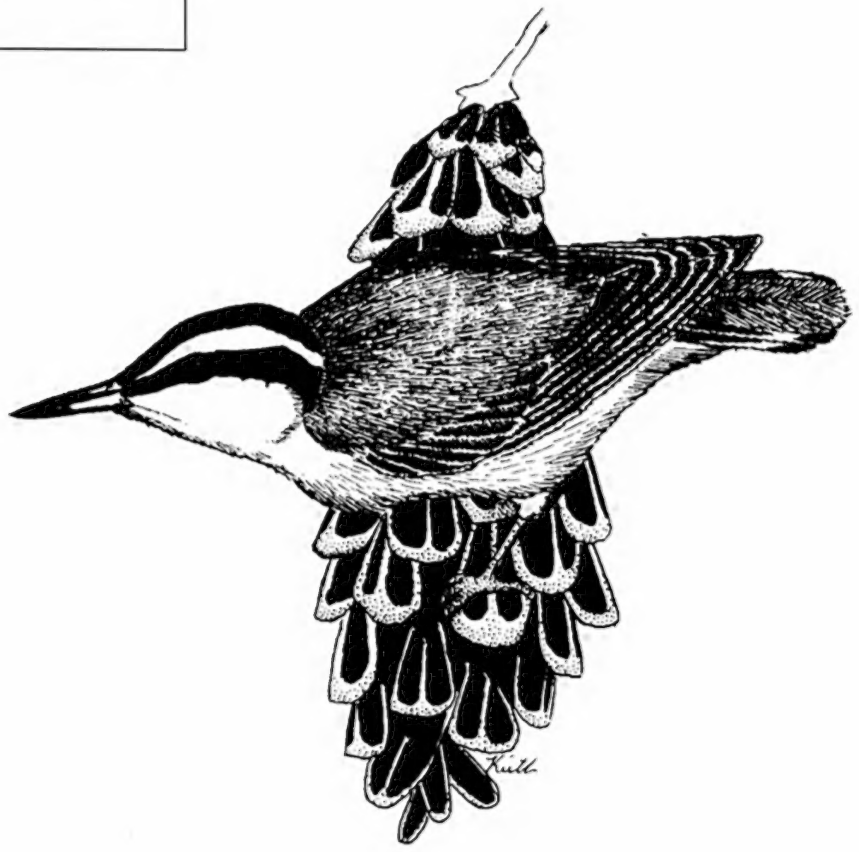
FIELD TRIP. Howard. Wilde Lake. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the boat dock to walk along the lake and through woodlands in search of winter birds and waterfowl. For further information, call Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.

Saturday, November 24

FIELD TRIP. Harford. Conowingo Dam. Conowingo is one of the best locations for mid-Atlantic birding at this time of year. The dam hosts dozens of Bald Eagles and thousands of gulls. Other possible sightings include Golden Eagle, Black-crowned Night-Heron and Pileated Woodpecker. Scopes are helpful. Meet trip leader Dave Larkin (410-569-8319) at 8:00 a.m. at the pavilion at the north end of Fisherman's Park, which is located at the end of Shures Landing Road.

Sunday, November 25

FIELD TRIP. Howard. Centennial Park. Looking for migrant waterfowl and any lingering odenates. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the west end lot. The leader is Richard Orr. For further information, call Bonnie Ott at 410-461-3361.



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The copy deadline for the November/December issue of the Yellowthroat is September 25 for chapter activities and October 1 for all other submissions.

Send calendar entries for September and October to:

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